



August 2023 — September 2023

LASKEY'S TELEGRAPH



Newsletter of The New England Division of The Marine Corps League Vol. 2 Issue 6



Message From The Division Commandant



Welcome back to another outstanding issue of the Laskey Telegraph! The time has come for this to be my last issue as your National Vice Commandant. I am honored and proud to have served you all for the past five years! I hope by the next issue, I will be your new National Judge Advocate.

As I sit here and write this, to see one of my mentor's dreams come true and really take off is truly heartwarming. We started out back in October of 2021 and look here we are at Volume 2, Issue 6. The material just keeps getting better and better. We have the best Division newsletter, and it inspires other Divisions to follow our lead. This is not about bragging (ok a little, you all earned it) but it is about strengthening the League by connecting and communicating to everyone on what is going on. So please share this with your membership and bring forward ideas - we are always looking for new material.

For my term in office I could not have been more proud of my team. Leaders by themselves are not great, they succeed because they surround themselves with great people. For it is not about one person, but functioning as a team. For this the New England Division has thrived and pushed forward to secure the past for

the future. For one chapter of the book is finishing up, a new one will be ready to be written! I am looking forward to what Pat Maguire, Mike Hinds and their staff will do taking us to the next level.

We had a great time at the Department of Connecticut's convention at the end of June. What no better way to finish off the season of Conventions. The Convention was an amazing turn out, had a motivating guest speaker SgtMaj. Maness, and an outstanding time building stronger friendships. This is what we are all about coming as a family and building our Camaraderie!

Thank you for your support and love over the past five years! Looking forward to seeing everyone in Oklahoma!



Semper Fi

David M Porter
National Vice Commandant
New England Division
Marine Corps League
www.Porter4NJA.org



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Div. Web Sergeant	NA	ing. When I was young and just starting out in business, I had done a project for which I received this great recognition from my company, and I shared it with the person who allowed me to create it. He said congratulations and told me don't rest on your laurels. I never forgot that, and he was so right, never stop, there is always more to accomplish, we always need to keep growing. That is true for us today as we struggle to come back from COVID, we struggle to grow and fill our ranks and complete our mission. The Marine Corps today is not the same as the Marine Corps of yesterday, just as the Marine Corps League today is not the same as the Marine Corps League 100 years ago, but neither are the needs of those we serve. As Marines we Improvise, Adapt, and Overcome, this has always been our creed, I use it on my e-mails but I added another phrase, Impossible is not a reality it's only an opinion. So as we celebrate by all means look back on all we have accomplished, but remember as we take that first step that we, as well as all those who came before us, and all of us that are yet to come are expecting so much more. Our needs are great, our numbers are few, but our spirit is invincible. As we go forward we will follow our motto, Semper Fedelis, in growing to meet the needs of all of our brothers and sisters, and all the others veterans we serve. Every Marine Corps League member has the opportunity and desire to help others and we do so according to our abilities. You are important to The League, your Brothers and Sister's, and definitely to all those we serve. Keep this in mind when you solicit new members, take on a leadership role, so that we may grow, and change to meet the new challenges we face.
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From The Editor

Hello Marines, as I complete this issue of our Newsletter completing our second year, I find myself looking back on how far we have come and of all we have before us. This month we will celebrate 100 years of the Marine Corps League and take that first step in our journey into our next hundred years. I think if I was the person planning the celebration of the first hundred years and the kick off of our next hundred I would have went with tradition and gone back to Tun's Tavern, as that would have embraced tradition by going back to the beginning. That would have been a mistake because we are not the same as we were back then and rightly so as we should always be growing and improv

**Semper Fidelis
Walt Benson**



WHEN YOU FEEL YOU HAVE MORE TO

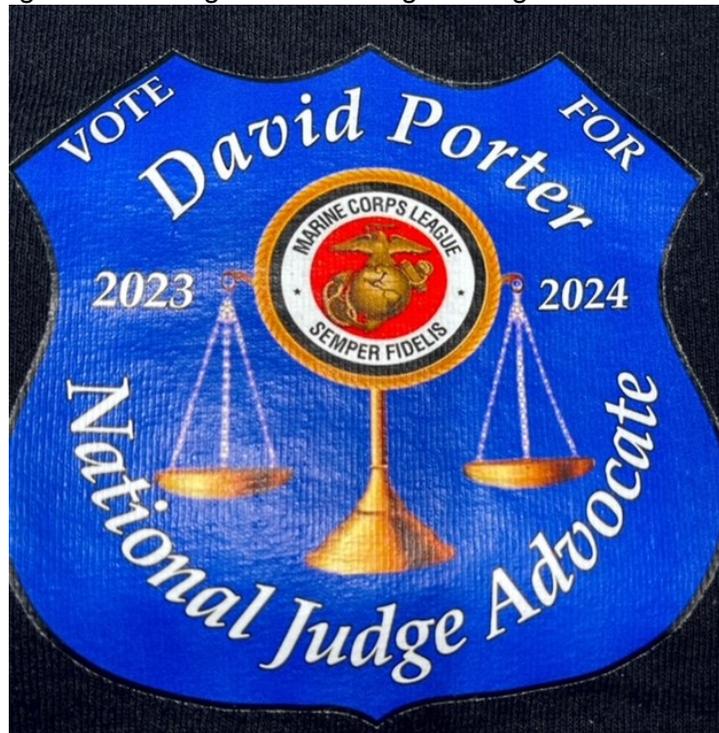


“I have the knowledge and the experience to serve and humbly ask that you allow me to prove it”. I took this quote off Dave Porter’s campaign page, first because I liked it and I also think this really says it all. I have know Dave for a few years now and as a leader I think he hits all of the high marks in regards to leadership skills. We have all been present for the installation of officers at detachment and department elections. Think of the words spoken to the commandant after the installation, he is given instructions or guidance from the installing officer. “Hold constantly before the eyes of your fellow Marines the great principles for which the League strives. Strive to promote harmonious interest and effort among your fellow Marines. Be alert in supervising the work of your officers. Require them to constantly bear in mind the obligation of their oath. Nevertheless exercise a kindly attitude in all you say and do. Be quick to praise and cautious to admonish. To you is given the opportunity of so administering the affairs that it can and will improve in interest, work and growth”. This is a roadmap or guide to follow to be a better leader.

If you watched the Commandants Corner where all of the candidates were presented and asked questions so that we may get to know them you learned that all the candidates had about the same amount of time in the League. They also had similar experiences and leadership roles, so how do you chose who is the best? The Marine you vote for will move through the chairs and someday be our National Commandant, what qualities do you want that Commandant to have? For the answer I look to what the candidate has done at his present level. I know that may seem hard because you get to see them at local events, but we also get to see them at National Conventions and Conferences.

Dave Porter as our New England Vice Commandant runs a fantastic Division. His policies of trying to force out the negativity in the League as well as providing a welcoming feeling throughout the Division so that we are more like a family than anything else. At the National Conventions and conferences I see him participating with all the groups and organi-

zations we deal with, whether it be contributing funds or offering help and assistance. He does this not only on the floor during the business meetings but one on one as well, meeting these people throughout the event. Whether he joins them for a morning walk, sightseeing around town or inviting them to the Division dinners we have on each trip, that feeling of family is extended to them as well. I feel that Dave will bring this type of atmosphere and environment that we enjoy today to the rest of the League, and in going forward into our next hundred years this is the type of leadership we need and it will help us to build.



There are three types of leaders. The first type is the place holder the person who is not committed to leading, they are collecting titles and accolades. They take the job for the wrong reason, a leader doesn’t accept the job to gain

they take the job to give and share. The second type of leader a good leader who is the go getter, their goal is to be number one in everything they do. They want to succeed and they want the recognition to go with it, they lead for glory. The last type is the great leader. They want to bring all of their followers with them. They want all beneath them to be a great as they are, someone capable of doing as much as they can do. They are WE rather than I. This type of leader knows no end to what they are capable of achieving . This is always the leader I will choose to follow.

Dave Porter is that type of leader this is what I see in him, what do you see? I think this is the leadership we need going forward. You have to ask yourself who will be the best leader for the League? Who will bring us growth and advancement into the future? Who will promote the League in a positive light? Who will reach out and make the connections and contacts we need to succeed. Wouldn’t it be great if we could experience the great comradery and the success we have in New England, throughout the entire League. I have found him to be a tireless, dedicated leader who definitely has a dream and vision for the League

Walt Benson

THIS IS MY STORY AND MY PLAN

Hi! Welcome to my campaign page, my name is David Porter. I am excited and appreciate the opportunity to be able to speak to you about who I am and my vision for the Marine Corps League, specifically, why it's important that you vote for me as your next National Judge Advocate in 2023.

I am the current National Vice Commandant for the New England Division. I've been in this billet since 2018 and have learned so much in the past five years regarding what it takes to prepare myself for the next step – National JA.

During my tour of duty, I've had the privilege to work with three National Past Commandants like Wendall Webb, Dennis Tobin and the current Commandant, Mr. Johnny Baker. It has been a privilege to work with these great leaders and learn from their leadership styles, knowledge, and visions.

While serving on the Board of Trustees, I've learned the responsibilities of all the National Staff billets. Each one of them starts with holding yourself accountable and having the willingness to listen to the thoughts of others – while maintaining the integrity of the Administrative Processes of Chapter 9

Speaking of integrity, I must give credit where credit is due and thank my father for the man I am today. He showed me the concept of service before self and what sacrifice really means. My Dad is a recipient of and a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Association who served in Vietnam in Dewey Canyon (3/9) and then came home to become a police officer after discharge from the Marine Corps. My dad taught me that no matter what you do, you work hard at it, and you never give up no matter how difficult the task. I served on active duty from 1991-1997 as a Towgunner (0352). I've earned my bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University. In 2003, I graduated from the Police Academy, and I was very proud when my father decided that he was going to pin my badge on my chest.

I believe that my experience as an Officer of the law has assisted me in my journey to this position. To protect and serve goes hand in hand with honor, courage, and commitment. I am not perfect, but I am willing to serve in the position giving 100% effort – 100% of the time...just like my Dad taught me. I have the heart, the energy, and the passion and humbly ask that you allow me to give back to an organization that has given so much to me.

I am running against 3 other candidates for the Judge Advocate position. Each of them are wonderful people, stellar Marines and MCL members, but I would like to talk about what I could do for the league and how I differ from the other candidates.

As you all know when voting for the Judge Advocate you are voting for the future Commandant and that's what a vote for me brings...a stronger MCL future

Here is what I think I bring to the table for the Judge Advocate:

#1) – I am the only candidate that is currently sitting on the Board of Trustees, this will aid me in taking on the responsibility of NJA with a smooth transition because I know the processes of how things work and have had firsthand experience as to what the job entails, and have also been instrumental in helping our current Commandant on Judge Advocate matters when asked.

#2) -I am the candidate who has worked closely with 3 different National Commandants... their leadership styles, knowledge, and ideas have helped to shape me into the same professional mindset. I may not have always agreed with each decision made, but I have always respected the process, listened to perspectives, and understood that sometimes things need to change in order for the League

to progress. Change may not always be popular, but I believe we can make forward advancements in how we do things while we continue to maintain our traditions.

#3) – Listening skills – As I mentioned, I currently work as a Police Officer in the City of Cambridge. When I get a call, it is usually not a great day for the person I have to respond to. It takes special skills to obtain pertinent information during a very emotional time. I have to listen, assess and diffuse situations and make judgment calls quickly. After nearly 20 years on the job, I have become very good at it.

The past couple of years I have been part of a peer support team, this takes an enormous amount

of patients and the ability to listen and validate how parties are feeling and see all sides of the story.

Future of the league

- Bringing the League, Association, Young Marines together to make a powerhouse (a powerhouse for what purpose) – Take a more active role in the Marine Corps Coordinating Council which is a group that was initially formed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) to distribute information to all Marine Corps affiliated organizations. Strive to be as influential as other veterans' organizations and as well known.

- Memberships- Currently _____% of our membership is under the age of 30 (whichever age you want to highlight). I would like to work with recruiters, VSO's, VA hospitals and younger members to find out why newer Veterans are not joining. Work with younger MCL members for outreach and Leadership. I believe that the mental wellness of younger veterans can be greatly enhanced by hearing the stories of and learning from the generations that served and survived before them!

I promise you this – you are never going to hear that Dave Porter is a polished or perfect man. However, what you will hear (and need to know) is that I am the best candidate for this responsibility of National Judge Advocate. I have the heart, I have the knowledge and the experience to serve and humbly ask that you allow me to prove it.



Building a strong relationship to secure the future



As a member of the Marine Corps Association, you will be well-connected with the Corps with MCA's membership benefits:

Resources:

[Leatherneck – Magazine of the Marines and The Marine Corps Gazette](#) are our monthly flagship publications that feature valuable information from the Corps. Members can select print and/or digital issues and can access more than one hundred years of issues of both magazines online for free. Non-members do not have access to our Magazine archives. [Click here](#) to see sample issues.

- [The MARINE Shop](#) is our retail store that assists Marines with their uniform requirements regardless of rank and offers many Marine Corps themed gifts and apparel. MCA Group Insurance Program features valuable insurance products with your needs in mind – all backed by an association you can trust. We leverage the buying power of our MCA members to bring you competitive group rates and offer one convenient source for the following products:

[Term Life Insurance](#)

[TRICARE Supplement](#)

[Dental Insurance](#)

[Vision Insurance](#)

[Pet Insurance](#)

[Long-Term Care Insurance](#)

[Medicare Insurance Plans](#)

[Individual and Family Health Insurance Plans](#)

To learn more about the benefits of the Marine Corps Association Group Insurance Program, [Click Here](#) or call **(800) 845-4685**.

Networking Opportunities:

Discounted [Professional Events](#): Our members receive discounted rates for our MCA professional dinners and events held annually throughout the Corps. Our dinners provide members with access to senior leaders of the Marine Corps, Department of Defense, and industry. Active-duty members can attend for free.

Professional Development:

[MCA Battle Study Packages](#): Members will have access to all of our Battle Study Packages and learn from the lessons of the battles of the past to excel in the Corps battlefields of the future.

[MCA Decision-Making Exercises](#): Members can practice solving issues to increase their ability to make decisions through dozens of tactical and ethical decision games

[MCA Corps Voices](#): Hear the Corps' icons from Chesty Puller to Alexander Vandegrift to Al Gray discuss issues, challenges, and battlefield tactics in these audio excerpts recorded over the last one hundred years.



**NEDNVC David M. Porter
Lt.Gen. Charles Chiarotti
President and CEO**

By joining our membership, you also help us to provide excellence awards, essay contests, unit libraries, and more to support today's Marines. If you would like to speak with a member services representative regarding your membership, you can reach us at 1-866-622-1775.



August 2023 — September 2023

SEMPER FI

Newsletter of The Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League



Department of Connecticut Commandant's Corner



Thank You & and Remembering

I was honored at our recent Dept of CT convention to be elected to a second term as your Dept of CT Commandant, and as such want to publicly thank those in attendance who made that happen. We had a great turn out, lots of NE Division staff as well as the newly elected Dept of MA Commandant and the incoming NE Division V/Commandant.



and active involvement are all needed to continue to make this League a success; and to make the Dept of CT stand out.

I recently had the privilege of attending the rededication of the Samuel K Beamon Sr Memorial Bridge in Waterbury. This bridge now has a mural depicting significant portions of Sam's life. On this same day, I got to meet up with and speak to 100 yr. old Marine Cpl. Dottie Dee. I presented her with a one hundredth anniversary MCL coin commissioned for this year's National Convention. Dottie attended RDPI and trained as a quartermaster at Camp LeJeune.

As we MCLeaguers continue to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our beloved League, we reflect upon and recognize General LeJeune for establishing this exceptional organization. Membership, recruitment, retention

What a trailblazer she is.

In closing, let me just say what a humbling honor it was for me to be recognized at this year's CT Convention as the Dept of CT Marine of the Year. I will continue to work



tirelessly to make CT one of the six gems that comprise the New England Division.

Semper Fi
Patrick T. McMahon
Commandant
Department of Connecticut
Marine Corps League



CONNECTICUT



THE BIG C “CONVENTION 2023”



2023 Pack Dog of The Year Rivers McCallop



Some well needed laughs from Larry Herrmann



Elections conducted by PCDD Doug Fisk, assisted by PDD Bill-Schmidt. *Deputy Executive Director*, (That’s all I can Remember).

- Rich Daigle—Worthy Pack Leader
 - Walt Benson—Worthy SR. Vice PL
 - Jim Lauber –Worthy JR. Vice PL
 - Pat McMahon—Worthy Smart Dog
 - Bill Lamb—Worthy Mad Dog
 - Jack Dougherty—Worthy Dog Trainer
 - Bill Lee—Worthy Police Dog
 - TBA— Worthy Barking Dog
- May the BONES Be With You



The Department of Connecticut and Honored Guests Our Commandant Has Our Back



CONNECTICUT



THE BIG C “CONVENTION 2023”



Dept Commandant Pat McMahon, 2023 YMOY Mason Steele, National Young Marine Liaison Angela Maness

YM UC Russell Grant, 2023 YMOY Mason Steele, YM Division 1 Commander Joe Couture.

Guest Speaker, National Young Marine Liaison Angela Maness, NE Division Table

2023 CONNECTICUT MARINE OF THE YEAR PAT MCMAHON WITH PRIOR MARINES OF THE YEAR



Center in front of the Flag Pat McMahon Department Marine of The Year 2023

From the left, **Mike Monaco**, Department Marine of The Year 2018, **Rivers McCallop**, Department Marine of The Year 2000 , **Gregg Timms**, Department Marine of The Year 2014 , **Jack Dougherty**, Department Marine of The Year 2008, 45th National Marine of The Year 2009, **James Soder**, Department Marine of The Year 2019, **Rich Michaud**, Department Marine of The Year 2022, **Walt Benson**, Department Marine of The Year 2021, **Division Marine of The year 2023**, and to all those who couldn't make it you were missed, and remembered.

John Lynch, 1998, Jim Lord, 1999, **Chester Strachel**, 2002, Ray Carrier, 2003, Mike Bolash, 2005, Peter Galgano, 2006, **Duane Knowles**, 2007, **James Alexander**, 2009, Ron Collins, 2010, John Clark, 2011, Sal Sena, 2012, Greg Forbush, 2013, Don Ostertag, 2015, Lou Verrette, 2016, Fred McGoldrick, 2017.



CONNECTICUT



ARE WE FINALLY MOVING FORWARD?

As we look back at the 2023 Convention I am both wondering and hoping that we have turned the corner and are starting to move forward. Since COVID we as well as many other Departments have been struggling to get members back to our meetings and our activities. That being said we have sparks of life coming from our Convention. Registrations started off slow, but then we started to get interest and the signups commenced. We tried new things, we introduced a Friday night dinner where over thirty people attended. We had some people from the Department of Massachusetts attend and quite a few Division officers as well and some of them came despite a grueling schedule. Some came by way of the Department of Maryland Convention, Modern Day Marine and here, Pat Maguire got back to Rhode Island from Gitmo on Saturday Afternoon and made it to the Banquet Saturday evening, thank you all.

Our guest speaker who was not only an excellent choice but an excellent speaker came all the way from Oklahoma, we can't thank her enough, but if you want to try, you could pack up the wagon and go to Oklahoma City, the more the merrier. If you can't do that then lets start small, come back to a Department meeting. We feed you, we have door prizes, 50/50 raffle, and you get to spend some time with some of the best people on the planet. There is a wealth of knowledge in that room that you could not find anywhere else. Do you have a bylaw question we have someone with the answer. Do you want to set something up in your detachment you can get help here. Do you need any type of help, someone here will help you.

Recently I found a post in Facebook which was the Eagle Globe and Anchor, with the quote, "Love us or Hate us, There is a reason that this is the most recognized symbol in the world". It is true. Tell me why or how the smallest branch of the military is the most recognized. Drive down any street in America and you will have no problem finding out where the Marines live. Go into any parking lot and you will know which cars belong to Marines. We personify

and live our motto, Semper Fidelis. We all do the things we do because we care and still want to serve, but human nature is hard to overcome, you miss one meeting then two then three and all of a sudden you are no longer coming. We have to change this and come back.

If you were at the convention, at the business meeting I spoke about membership and going after lost members. It is the job of the Jr. Vice to track and follow up on membership. I as the department Jr. Vice am going to contact all the delinquent members to see if I can get them back. Once I contact them I will turn over the list to the detachments to follow up. Please follow up as we need all of our members to be successful, and move forward.

Find something you like to do and take it on, it doesn't matter If someone else is doing it now, you can help or take it over. If someone wants one of my jobs you can take it I'll find something else. The next department meeting is August 6th, come down ask questions, be an active part of the process. Do you want us to do something, bring it up at the meeting. I have seen a lot of things being done elsewhere such as, softball, shooting, golf, family outings, Friday morning Coffee meetings. All of these are easy enough to set up all we need is you.

We also have several open positions available at the department level and some new ones we would like to explore. Would you like to organize a sporting event? Do you have a connection to Boy Scouts? Would you like to explore starting a new Young Marines Detachment? I would love to see us have someone interested in being the Department Photographer so we don't have to chase down pictures. There are a lot of things we can do and each one of them will make us better. I know if we build on what we have done here now we will be bigger, better, and stronger next year at this time, because we have the drive and the talent. I hope to see you at the meeting.

Walt Benson



CONNECTICUT



FRIENDS BUT ALSO FAMILY BIG C 2023



2023 Installation of Officers Department of Connecticut & Installing Officer Angela Maness



On the left
Jamie DePaola
Adele Hodges
Guest Speaker
Angela Maness



YMOY Mason Stelle & parents with Angela Maness
Below Ilyina & Mike Hinds
NENVC David Porter, Liz
Anderson & Dave Rosa
with Flag Coin Holder created
by Dave Rosa



These 5 pictures where no one is named nor titles listed represent us all as friends & family. The laughter, smiles and handshakes we all share each time we come together create a feeling that cannot be duplicated. So in these 5 pictures put yourself, whether you were there or not, you are part of this, FEEL IT!



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Hike To Remember XI

South Glastonbury, CT

[About](#) [Participants](#) [Teams](#) [Results](#) [Awards](#) [Contact](#)

[Register Now](#)



When & Where

Sep 16, 2023
Saturday
4:00 AM
Add to Calendar
Event Schedule

South
Glastonbury, CT
Courses & Maps

[See if you're registered](#)

Share Your Results

We'll automatically post your results for you on race day. Just connect your Twitter account.

[Connect with Twitter](#)



Veterans of Peter P Monaco Jr Detachment 40, Marine Corps League - MCL
19 hours ago

Hike to Remember XI
Registration is now open!
UNITING VETERANS TO
BUILD AWARENESS, BUILD
COMRADERY AND PREVENT
SUICIDE

On September 16th, we will unite with 300+ veterans in Glastonbury, Connecticut to hike a 22k. Why 22k? As a reminder that 22 veterans take their own lives every day

UNITING VETERANS TO BUILD AWARENESS, BUILD COMRADERY AND PREVENT SUICIDE

On September 16th 2023, we will unite with 300+ veterans in Glastonbury, Connecticut to hike a 22k.

Why 22 kilometers? In the hearts and minds of these military veterans, it is simply a reminder that they lose 22 veteran and/or active duty brothers and sisters from suicide every day.

MCL Det. 40's mission is to unite veterans and service members from all branches and walks of life to enjoy the camaraderie they had shared while serving. Together, they integrate their passion with purpose to combat suicide in the veteran community. Each year's hike is designed to join these forces to support the fight to end veteran suicide and to support veterans and their families as they transition back to civilian life.

We hope you'll give it a share to help spread awareness about this important cause. God bless America!

PLEASE NOTE: The Hike portion of this event is open to Veterans and Active Duty Service Members only.
Registration is currently OPEN



CONNECTICUT



PICNIC WITH FRIENDS NEAR AND FAR

I attended the Paul C. Houghton Annual Picnic and it was a great time and fun for all. The list included not only Connecticut Marines but Massachusetts Marines as well. Sandy and JR Rutovich attended, Myself and My wife, Bill Schmidt, Adele Hodges from the Bridgeport Detachment, and Pat and Lynn Maguire were going to attend but were detained elsewhere. It is refreshing to see Marines from different detachments as well as different states attending. Marines supporting Marines. Yesterday I made a trip to Rhode Island to support Family Fun Day, I had a fantastic time. I came to Rhode Island Last November for the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Each time I travel to a new place or a new group I meet new friends, (New Marines). I find that by going to events like this, conferences and Conventions as well, the experience and new friends is well worth it. This is what it's all about, building relationships through friendship and comradery, there is not one function that I attend that I do not come away without meeting someone new and connecting with that person. Sometimes I can help them with an idea and quite a few times they can help me. We need to communicate what we have going on, that includes not only the Marine Corps League, but also other groups we work with as well, Young Marines, Toys for Tots, Auxiliary, and the communities we serve and live in. However, If we don't know you are having an event, no one can come to it. We have neighboring States, and we should be

crossing State lines to join and celebrate with other Marines. It was evident here today as well as in Rhode Island the day before. We could use more of this, not only because we have fun doing it, but if we don't support each other who will?



Group shot of those in attendance but if you look in the left corner there is Bill Schmidt hiding in plain sight



The Winners of a \$500 Scholarship Andrew Hadfield Jr., Lindsay Houghton, and Marquis Whyte with Detachment Commandant Bill Lee wearing the appropriate Marine Apron



Our Leader and MC Bill Lee



My Good Friend and Honored Guest JR Rutovich, inspiring the scholarship winners on the importance of education



CONNECTICUT



PICNIC WITH FRIENDS NEAR AND FAR



JR Rutovich Division Paymaster
49th Chief Devil Dog Doug Fisk



Past Department Commandant, Commandant
Bridgeport Detachment Adele Hodges



Sandy Rutovich Division

Below: No better end to a day of fun food and great friends than to chill with a book a little conversation and of course a stogie



MASSACHUSETTS

The Department of Massachusetts Commandant Jon Zwirblia, SR. Vice Commandant Mike Hinds, JR. Vice Commandant Steve Cheney, attended the Department of Connecticut Convention, which in itself may not seem to be much but it is a very big deal. Anytime we reach out and go to events in other Departments or Detachments, many things occur, we are exposed to other ideas. It is an opportunity to see how other Marines put together events which allows us to bring those ideas back to our Marines and make our events better. For example, Pat McMahon brought the idea of a Friday night Dinner back to Connecticut, as part of their Convention and it was very successful. Also the comradery and making new friends in the other locations is key to our growth and success.

All the Department Officers were busy working on closing out the fiscal year this past month.

The Westfield River Valley Detachment hosted a SOS breakfast and it was a great success.

Pittsfield Massachusetts Detachment honored one of their Marines who turned 100 years old with Detachment Marine of the Year, and escorted him in the Pittsfield 4th of July Parade.



MASSACHUSETTS

USS Constitution *Salute to Vietnam Veterans!*



Friday, August 4th, 2023
Charlestown Navy Yard

- Limited space for Vietnam Era Veterans and a guest
- Depart at 1000, Return at 12:30; special on-board ceremony
- **Veterans Dockside Resource Fair** prior to and after the cruise
- Reply to David.Hencke@va.gov; 617-275-6101
- Provide name, guest name, email/phone, Branch of Service/Unit /Ship, Rank (optional), Period of duty (if deployed to Vietnam)



VA Boston Healthcare
VA Vet Centers
VA Benefits Administration



USS
Constitution
Museum

MASSACHUSETTS

VETERANS EXPO!



Free
Food &
Fun!

You Served?
You Earned!

For Vets, Troops, Family & Friends

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd

VA Boston Brockton Campus

10am-2pm, 940 BELMONT ST, BROCKTON, MA

-  **Live Bands/Music and Free Prizes!**
-  **Jobs & Career Fair! Bring DD214**
-  **Fed/State Resources & Benefits!**
-  **Health Services and Checks; new COVID boosters**



Military Vehicle & Equipment Displays



Kid's Zone! Pony Rides, Bounce House & more

*For more information go to www.eventbrite.com and search for "Brockton Veterans Expo", email VABostonVets@va.gov or call (857) 364-5934



VABoston
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



City of
Brockton



Department of
Career Services



With generous
support from Cell
Phones for Soldiers

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Marine Corps League Gary S Dillon Detachment Summer Family Picnic



Marines, FMF Corpsman,
Gold and Blue Star Families, and Poolies
Join us and our families at
Odell Park in Franklin, NH

Saturday 12 August 10:00 – 15:00

Please join our family at the Odell Park for a good old fashioned Marine Corps Field Day. We will have several classic games like the Dizzy Izzy, Horse Shoes, 3 legged races, pie eating contest and many more.

The park has outdoor activities such as a swingset, softball, tennis courts and more. We invite all family members to join, and participate in this fun outdoor event. Lunch will be provided at no cost, so bring your family and be reunited with your sisters and brothers in arms. Semper Fidelis

For more information please contact
Cody Dumont – 603.785.2665 - cody@melcara.com

Odell Park: Take exit 19 from I 93. Turn left on to Route 132 North towards Franklin for 1 mile, and turn left onto Route 3. Follow Route 3 South for approximately 2.9 miles. Turn right on Memorial St for .3 miles.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

248th USMC Birthday



Happy Birthday Marines

Marines of New Hampshire come and join the Gary S Dillon Detachment of the Marine Corps League for our 248th Birthday. This year we have partnered with Twin Rivers Food Pantry in Franklin NH to help raise money to feed our neighbors. Twin Rivers Food Pantry's mission is to provide healthy food and nutrition resources to those in need within our communities. <https://twinriversfoodpantry.org>. In this partnership all proceeds will go directly to the Twin Rivers Food Pantry. This will be our first Marine Corps Ball in partnership with Twin Rivers Food Pantry and we would like to welcome all Marines to participate. Many Marines will be in uniform and some may not be, so come as you are, attire is not important. This event is to celebrate our heritage and service to our nation. The event will be at Mojalaki Country Club, 321 Prospect Street Franklin, NH 03235 and the Early Bird Special cost is \$50 per person. For more information, please call Cody Dumont 603.782.2665.

Plan of the Day

- 5:30 Reception and Drinks
- 6:00 Post the Colors
- 6:15 Dinner
- 7:15 Cake Cutting Ceremony
- 7:30 Commandants' Messages (General Berger, Key Note, Det. Cmdt Dumont)
- 7:45 Social Hour
- 9:00 Retire the Colors



Flag raising over the state house, Nov 10th

Early Bird Special \$50 per person.

<https://square.link/u/M8pfBkJ7>



Leading Parades across Merrimack County

MAINE



PDD Toby Blais, Associate member Alice Paul, Kate Richardson, Senior Philanthropy Manager, Worthy Pack Leader PDD Charlie Paul and DD Donar St Pierre.



July 10, 2023 - Great day today. Just an FYI to everyone who has supported the Marine Corps League and the Military Order of Devil Dogs. Recently the MODD, Lobster Pound #119 and , Moose Pound #225, held a raffle to support the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. The winner was Don Kozerow, **Congratulation** to Don. He won himself a beautiful pistol. The real winners were the children and Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. We raised \$2550.00 dollars. To all who supported this effort ... THANK YOU.



AWESOME is the only way I can describe the Children's Hospital. I am proud to be a Marine and prouder to be a member of the Military Order of Devil Dogs, Lobster Pound #119. As Marines we are special, Devil Dogs, we are in a class of our own. Talk it up, ask the question...WHY AREN'T YOU A MEMBER OF THE MODD?

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island was the host state for this year's Young Marines Southern New England Regiment Encampment. It took place July 6-9 at Camp Varnum, Narragansett, Rhode Island. The Young Marines did an outstanding job with team building, physical training, coastline cleanup, etc. I witnessed great leadership by the Young Marines on staff. They handle themselves very well with great communication and mentorship. I have to say with the Young Marines coming up the ranks, SNER will be in good hands with more great leaders. Keep up the good work!!!!

Great job to SNERC Will Barkyoumb and his staff.

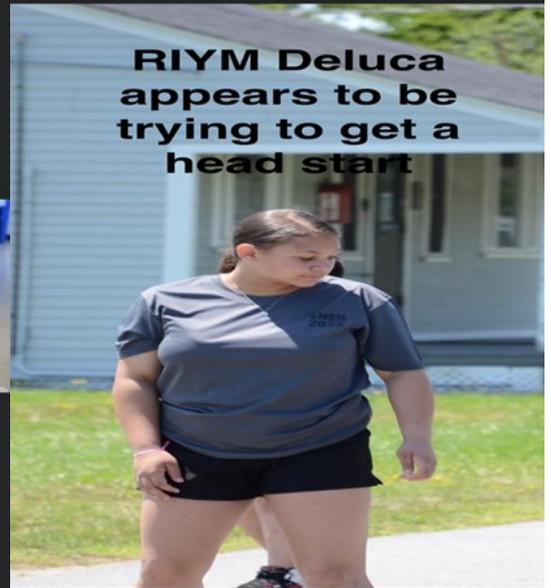
RIYM Deluca is being shy!



RIYM Babalion is looking pretty serious



RIYM Deluca appears to be trying to get a head start



Can't have an encampment without super soakers



RIYM Afonso always finds time for the tan



RHODE ISLAND

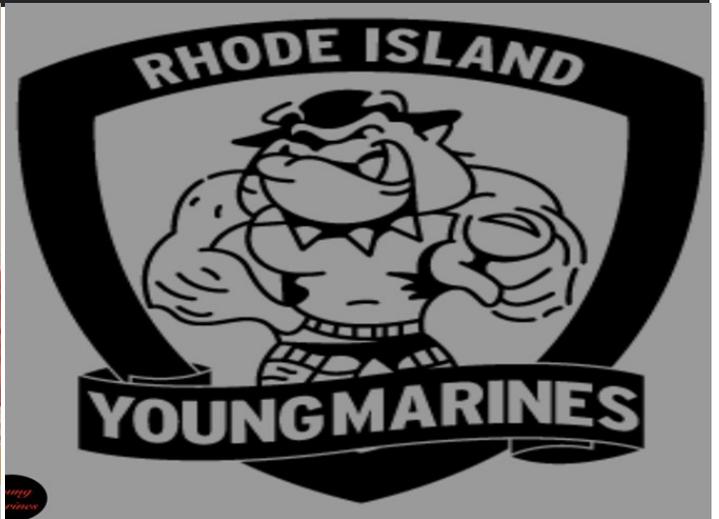
Some Young Marine encouragement for SouthCoast UC Gomez before going in the water



RI Unit XO Hamilton investigating the situation



IN the Issue for Quad State Wayne Hamilton was awarded The Division Associate Member of The Year and his photo was not available. I just found the photo and would like to give him a big congratulations. Great Job Wayne!!



**Patrick Maguire
Commandant
Department of Rhode Island
Asst. Div. Vice Commandant
New England Division
Marine Corps League**

RHODE ISLAND

FAMILY FUN DAY HUGE SUCCESS

The first weekend of Sunshine in quite a while brings smiles and success to a great event. Do you like Bouncy Rides, Great and plentiful food, sweets that will get you in trouble, and a magic show. Who doesn't like magic? Lastly Great Friends, all having fun and enjoying the comradery. Since I am really trying to not only meet new People, but actually remember their names let me see how far I can get Dave and Denise Creamer, Joe Alfonso and his Daughter, Pat and Lynn Maguire and their Daughter Jessica, Jane Deptula, Wayne and Carol Salisbury, Wayne Hamilton, New Friend Paul Campbell and a few others that I was not so good on names and many others yet to go.



RHODE ISLAND

FAMILY FUN DAY HUGE SUCCESS



MODERN DAY MARINE 2023



**FROM THE COMMANDANTS
TO THE PARADE DECK
MODERN DAY MARINE HAS IT ALL**



MODERN DAY MARINE 2023



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION

Joe Afonso
Dave Porter
Larry Chretien
Mike Hinds
Wayne Salisbury

Wayne Salisbury
Larry Chretien
Dave Porter
Tery Lasky
Lisa Solarczyk
Joe Afonso
Mike Hinds
Col. Bill Davis



LT. General James Glynn
Dep. Commandant Manpower
& Reserve Affairs
With
Wayne Salisbury
And
Larry Chretien

MODERN DAY MARINE 2023

When the day is done, well we're all Marines



Dave Porter , Mike Hinds,
Larry Chretien



Mike Hinds & Joe Afonso (Above)
Left Larry Chretien, Dave Porter,
Mike Hinds, Lisa Solarczyk, Howard
Shaefer, Terry Lasky , Victoria
McCoy, Wayne Salisbury and Joe
Afonso





100th Anniversary - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma CONVENTION

**Continued Monday, August 14,
2023**

Event Time	Event	Location
1300 - 1600	MCL Business Session	Oklahoma Station 1-4
1300 - 1600	MCLA Business Session	Five Moons 1-3
1300 -	MCL Opening Session	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Rules of Convention	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Dedication	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Budget Committee Report	Bob Ziltz
	U.S. Army TACOM	Jacquelyn Noell & Maria De La Rosa
	Newsletter Awards	Dianna Grantham
	Public Relations	Victoria McCoy
	Closing Ceremony	Oklahoma Station 1-4
Right after	Department Commandant's Council Meeting	Oklahoma Station 1-4
1700 - 2000	Cocktail Cruise	

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Oklahoma Station 5-8
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Front of Hotel
0800 - 1600	MCL Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1600	MCLA Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Registration (Dog House)	Five Moons 4-8
0800 - 1600	MCL Ships Stores	Automobile Alley A & B
0800 - 1600	MCLA Ships Stores	Paseo
0800 - 1600	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Automobile Alley C
0800 - 1600	Oklahoma Room - Local Ship Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Pinion
0900 - 1200	MCLA Business Session	Five Moons 1-3
0900 - 1200	MCL Business Session	Oklahoma Station 1-4
0900 -	Call Convention to Order	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Credentials Committee Report	Teresa Terry
	National Commandant	Johnny Baker
	National Senior Vice Cmdt & Dept Cmdt Council Rpt	Warren Griffin
	National Junior Vice Commandant	TJ Morgan
	National Judge Advocate & Resolutions	Russ Miller
1130 - 1230	MCLA President's Council Meeting	Route 66
1130 - 1230	MCLA Past National Presidents	Bricktown
1200 - 1300	Break for Lunch	Oklahoma Station 5-8



100th Anniversay - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma CONVENTION

Continued Tuesday , August 15, 2023

1300 - 1500	MCLA Business Session continues	Five Moons 1-3
1300 - 1600	MCL Business Session continues	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Bylaws Committee Presents Proposed Changes	Russ Miller
1600	Closing Ceremony	National Commandant
1600 - 1700	Americanism Committee	Mistletoe
1800 - 2000	Dog's Day in the Park (including check presentation)	Scissortail Park

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Oklahoma Station 5-8
0745 - 1200	M.O.D.D.F. Scratch	Five Moons 1-3
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Front of Hotel
0800 - 1200	MCL Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1200	MCLA Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
Closed	MCL Ships Stores	Automobile Alley A & B
Closed	MCLA Ships Stores	Paseo
0800 - 1300	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Automobile Alley C
0800 - 1300	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Five Moons 4-8
0800 - 1600	Oklahoma Room - Local Ship Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Pinion
0800 - 1000	Marine of the Year Society Meeting	Mistletoe
0800 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Five Moons 4-8
0800 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Initiation	Oklahoma Station 1-4
0900 - 1200	MCL 1-Hour Round Robin - Paymaster Class	Oklahoma Station 5-8
0900 - 1200	MCL 1-Hour Round Robin - Color Guard/Honor Guard	Route 66
0900 - 1200	MCL 1-Hour Round Robin - Administrative Compliance	Bricktown
0900 - 1200	MCL 1-Hour Round Robin - Commandant Class	Mistletoe
0900 - 1000	National Convention Committee Meeting	Deep Deuce
1300 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Supreme Growl	Oklahoma Station 1-4
1700 - 1800	M.O.D.D. of the Year Society Growl	Deep Deuce
1700 - 1800	MODD Hospitality	Oklahoma Station 5-8
1800 - 2000	Hospitality Room hosted by MODD (all welcome)	Oklahoma Station 5-8



100th Anniversay - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma CONVENTION

Thursday , August 17, 2023

0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Oklahoma Station 5-8
0700 - 0900	PNC Society	Mistletoe
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Front of Hotel
0800 - 0900	MCLA Div Vice President's Workshop	Route 66
0800 - 0900	PNP Society	Bricktown
0800 - 1600	MCL Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1600	MCLA Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1600	MCL Ships Stores	Automobile Alley A & B
0800 - 1600	MCLA Ships Stores	Paseo
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Automobile Alley C
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Five Moons 4-8
0800 - 1600	Oklahoma Room - Local Ship Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Pinion
0900 - 1200	MCLA Business Session	Five Moons 1-3
0900 - 1200	MCL Business Session	Oklahoma Station 1-4
0900-0905	Opening Ceremony	Oklahoma Station 1-4
0905 - 0920	MCJROTC Silent Drill Platoon	Grand High School MCJROTC
0920 - 0945	Marine for Life	David Ossian
1000 - 1200	MODD Staff Meeting	Deep Deuce
	Youth Physical Fitness / US Marines Youth Foundation	Tom Hazlett
	Marine Corps League Foundation	Howard Schaeffer
	Conventions/Conferences Committee	Jim Ransom
	2025 Presentations	Jim Ransom
	Vote on 2025 National Convention Proposals	Jim Ransom
1200	Break for Lunch	
1200 - 1330	M.O.D.D. & M.O.D.D.F. Luncheon	Oklahoma Station 5-8
1330 - 1530	MCLA Business Session continues	Five Moons 1-3
1330 - 1530	MCL Business Session continues	Oklahoma Station 1-4
1330	Call Convention to Order	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	PNC Council	Dennis Tobin
	Nomination of Officers	National Commandant
1530	Closing Ceremony	Oklahoma Station 1-4

NOTES:



100th Anniversary - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma CONVENTION

Friday, August 18, 2023

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Oklahoma Station 5-8
0700 - 0750	Walk in the Park - 1.5 miles	Scissortail Park
0745 - 0845	Past President's Club	Five Moons 1-3
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Front of Hotel
0800 - 1200	MCL Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1200	MCLA Registration	N. Pre-Function & Myriad
0800 - 1200	MCL Ships Stores	Automobile Alley A & B
0800 - 1200	MCLA Ships Stores	Paseo
0800 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Automobile Alley C
0800 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Five Moons 4-8
0800 - 1200	Oklahoma Room - Local Ship Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Pinion
0900 - 1200	MCLA Business Session	Five Moons 1-3
0900 - 1200	MCL Business Session	Oklahoma Station 1-4
0900 -	Call Convention to Order	Oklahoma Station 1-4
0900 - 0920	MCLA Presentation	PNP Ruth Moyse
0920 - 0930	Credentials Committee Report	Teresa Terry
0930 - 0945	Chief Devil Dog Report for MODD	60th CDD Alan Sanning
0945 - 1000	President MCLA Report	Linda Chamberlain
1000 - 1100	Marksmanship Awards	TBD
1100 - 1200	Americanism Awards	Tom Arcuri
1200-1300	Break for Lunch	
1300 - 1500	MCLA Business Session continues	Five Moons 1-3
1300 - 1500	MCL Business Session continues	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Call Convention to Order	Oklahoma Station 1-4
	Young Marines - NED/CEO & Liaison	Bill Davis/Angela Maness
	Toys for Tots	Russ Miller
	Remaining Reports Not Given	National Commandant
	Motion to Accept All Reports	National Commandant
	Unfinished Business/New Business/Good of the League	National Commandant
	Credentials Committee Final Report	Teresa Terry
	Election and Installation of Officers	PNC Paul Hastings
1500	Closing Ceremony	National Commandant
1800 - 1900	Formal Reception (Cash Bar)	Scissortail Terrace Area
1900 - 2200	Grand Banquet - Close the 100th Anniversary (99th Convention)	Oklahoma Station 1-8

NOTES:



100th Anniversay - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma CONVENTION

Saturday, August 19, 2023

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Oklahoma Station 5-8
0800 - 1200	*MCL National Board of Trustees Meeting	Deep Deuce

*At call of Commandant, MCL; President, MCLA;

Changes to times and room locations will be posted on the electronic boards at Registration Desks

HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY HOME & JOIN US IN ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA FOR THE 2024 MID-WINTER

SOONER DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE 100TH ANNIVERSARY COIN

Prepurchase Today! Celebrating 100 years. Sooner Detachment has released this limited editions of anniversary coins. Pictured below is the front and back which measures 4" wide by 3" high. You can purchase this coin and have it ready for pick up when you arrive in OKC. The cost is \$20.00 and can be paid using the link paypal.me/soonerDet559. Please remember to include your contact information on the purchase order.





YOUNG MARINES



YM Sgt/Maj. ISABELLA BENSON Young Marine of The Year

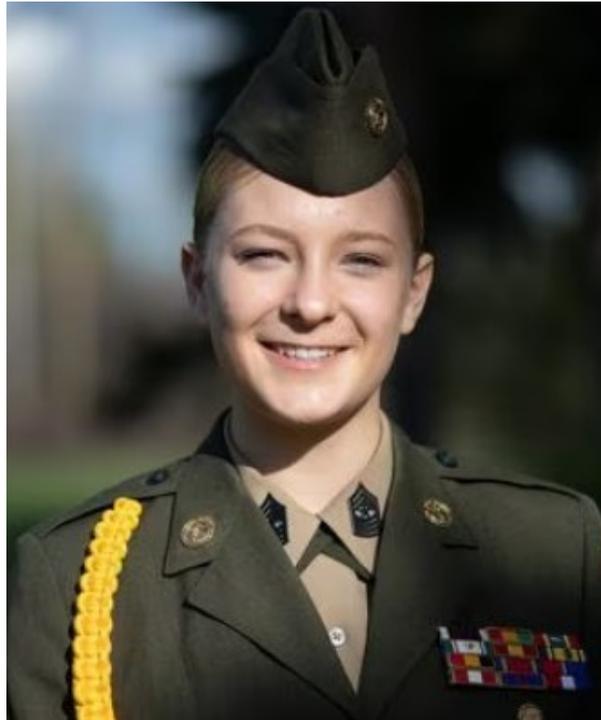
Hello Young Marines and Adult Volunteers!

I am so incredibly excited to introduce myself as your very own National Young Marine of the Year for 2023-2024! I can recall the day I first saw the Young Marines like it was yesterday. I was at a local parade in 2016, in my hometown of Lapeer, Michigan, when I saw a platoon of Young Marines marching down the road right towards me, and I was in utter awe. They were all in step and sounding off in cadence together, and it was at that moment that 10-year-old me knew that this program was something I wanted to be a part of. It is definitely safe to say that I made the right choice those seven summers ago.

Though I did not know it at the time that I joined, this program has opened countless doors and paved endless paths for me. But it was not until I grew up in this program for a few years that I realized that the doors may be open, and the paths may be paved, but nothing will happen if I just stand there and wait for someone else to walk through the doorway or down the path for me. That is something you will have to learn and begin on your own. Because at the end of the day Young Marines, this (life) is YOUR story, and YOU are the author.

Coming from a small community and a relatively small unit, I never really had the opportunity to interact with a National Young Marine of the Year outside of social

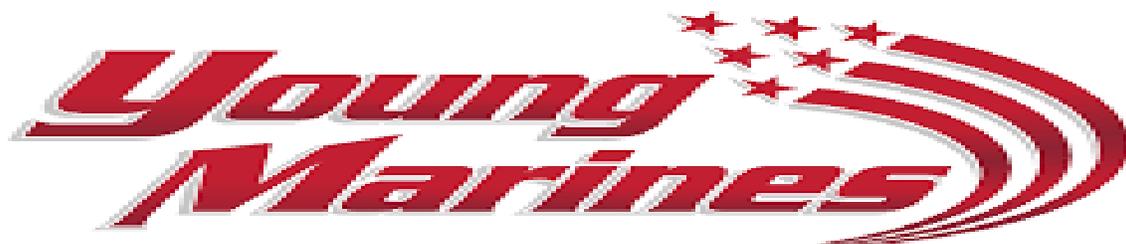
media and Esprit magazine. For years I have watched and learned from them from afar. It was not until a few years into my Young Marine career that I finally met a few of the National Young Marines of the Year. With each encounter I remember the impact they left on me. The amount of inspiration, motivation, and passion they shared with the people around them caused so much excitement. But most of all, I finally learned what a National Young Marine of the Year really is, a friend and a mentor. A friend that you can rely on to always have your back, someone that is always cheering you on, and that never stops believing in you and your goals.



Now here I am with all of you today, your National Young Marine of the Year, your mentor, and of course, your friend. And I challenge all of you to go out to events near and far and form connections, build relationships, and open your mind to what this program can teach you and what you can give back to the program.

It is time for the next chapter of all of our Young Marine careers. So never forget Young Marines, this is YOUR story!

Until next time,
YM/SgtMaj Isabella Benson





YOUNG MARINES



Congratulations Natchaug River YM Unit of The Year

With precision and concentration, these kids are working on drills. "I want them to be able to march properly on the right foot, making sure they understand the basics for when we do our parades," said Jayme Homen, a Gunnery Sergeant with the [Natchaug River Young Marines](#), a national youth organization for those ages 8 to 18.

"Our three core values are leadership, teamwork and discipline," said unit commander Russell Grant, noting that the group is all about strengthening America's youth with work geared towards drug prevention and supporting area veterans.

"We had over 3800 hours of community service last year," Grant said. That commitment to serve recently earned this group a top honor, named National Unit of the Year, out of more than 200 groups across the United States. Rose Barnes has been part of that program for nine years. "It really helped my ability make friends and build teams because were a lot about teamwork," she said.

Some kids, like 14 year-old Mason Steele, already a Gunnery Sergeant, sign up because they want to travel

to leadership academies and special events. "I've been down to West Virginia and all the way up to New Hampshire," he said. "It's given me a sense of confidence, knowing I am able to do these things."

"It's helped me to be neater, cleaner and actually have more respect towards people like veterans and my parents," said Homen.

Some want to join the military. Others don't. Every choice is supported. "I trust each and every one of these people with my life. We're close here, it's just what we do," Barnes said. It's a structure that helps these kids as they move towards a bright future.

"Six months, a year down the line, they're all calling commands, they're helping lead their fellow young marines and helping them grow. It's an awesome sight to see," Grant said. The group meets Tuesday evenings at Ellis Technical High School. There are also units in Waterbury and Norwich.

Sarah Cody





SCRATCHINGS FROM THE DOGS

DOGS DAY IN THE PARK

COME JOIN US
IN SCISSORTAIL PARK
TUESDAY 15 AUGUST
1600 - 2000

SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION OF CHECK TO
OU CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

EVENTS

DUNK TANK
PIE THROWING
CHIP SHOT GOLF
INFLATABLE AXE THROWING
NERF GUN SPORTS

EVENTS WILL ACCEPT DONATIONS
TOWARDS THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

MILITARY ORDER OF THE DEVIL DOGS



BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

HAVE A WOOFING GREAT TIME!

Join us for some good "clean" fun in the park! Everyone is welcome -
this is a MODD sponsored event and donations are welcome.



Marine For Life Network (M4L) connects transitioning Marines and their family members to education resources, employment opportunities, and other Veterans services that aid in their career and life goals outside of military service. The Marine For Life Network offers Marines and family members connections to military-friendly employment, education, and other Veteran and community resources. <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/services/career/marine-for-life-network/>

Shawn Carboni

New England Division M4L Liaison

Department of New Hampshire M4L Liaison

Granite State Detachment 542 M4L Liaison

My contact information is:

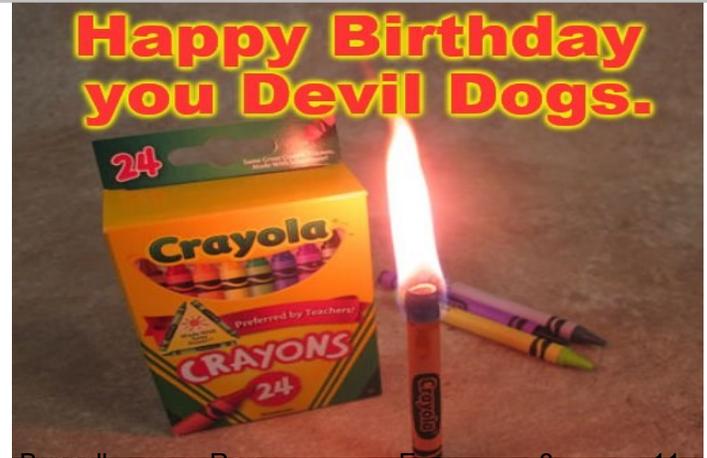
Carbs10@yahoo.com

(603)203-8266

National Marine Corps League Marine For Life Contact:

David Ossian

dossian@mcleague.org



Bunnell	Roy	E.	8	11
Davis	Donald		8	7
Gilleran	Kevin	M.	8	3
Hamilton	William	F.	8	1
Havelevitch	Dennis	E.	8	20
Kudrycki	Roman	P.	8	9
Maestrini, Sr	David	J.	8	23
Marine	Joseph	A.	8	7
McGoldrick	Frederick	J.	8	8
Miano	Joseph	A.	8	23
Morris	James	W.	8	14
O'Connell, Jr.	Kenneth	F.	8	17
Pelegano	Robert		8	15
Sena	David		8	19
Sena, Sr.	Salvatore	V.	8	3
Spencer	Michael	A.	8	15
Sztaba	Michael	T.	8	21
Yepes	Arthur	L.	8	8
Brasile	James		9	11
Cop, Jr.	Richard	J.	9	17
Cotter	James	M.	9	21
Dec	Brian	A.	9	8
DeConti	John	D.	9	9
Dydyn	Victor	R.	9	19
Fiori	James		9	4
Fleming, Jr	William	J.	9	22
Graham	Harold		9	26
Kowalker	Richard	A.	9	21
Leonard	Robert	J.	9	29
Levandowsky	Ronald		9	11
Milalyo	Marianne		9	23
Ouellette	Robert	J.	9	9
Polaske	Eugene	P.	9	16
Renner	Ethan		9	19
Sniadack, Jr.	Bernard	F.	9	24
Truhan	John	E.	9	12
Villaggio	Anthony		9	13
Wennberg	Harry	O.	9	26



HUMOR AROUND THE DIVISION



CS250269



MARINE CORPS BAR EXAM

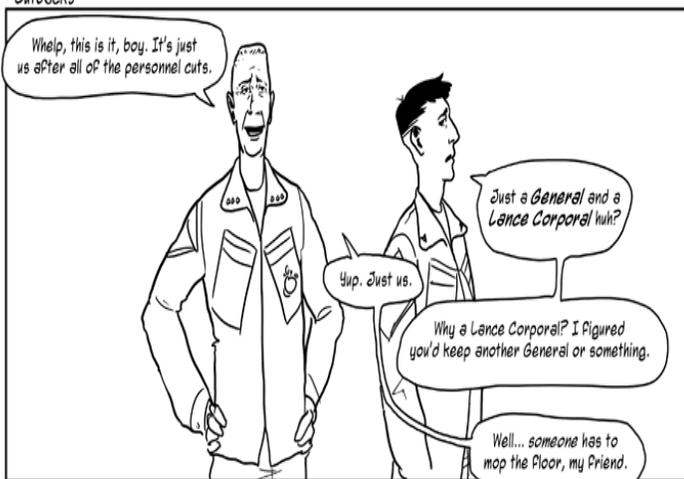
A man and his wife decided to go on vacation and they picked the Holy land as a destination. He then decided to take his mother in law with them. While in the Holy Land his mother in law died and he had to decide what to do with the body. He was told he could bury her in the Holy Land for \$150 or he could ship her home for burial at a cost of \$5000.00. The man said he would ship her home. The gentleman asked him why he would opt to send the body home at \$5000.00 rather than have her buried there for \$150? The husband replied that you did this once before and the person came back in three days, I'm not willing to take that chance she will come back.



"Anyone know how to prepare sushi?"

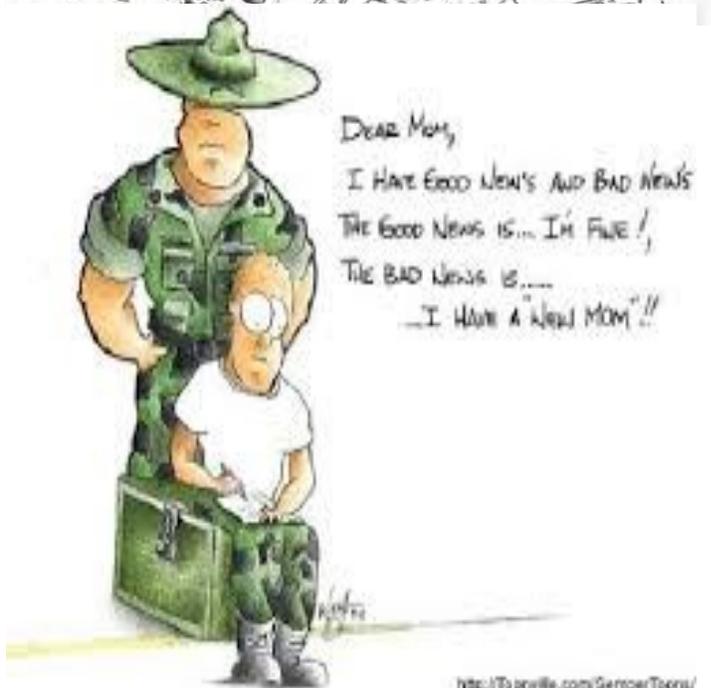


"Cutbacks"



www.terminalliance.com

Created by Maximilian Uriarte © 2011



http://Toonville.com/GempeToons/



DIVISION RECRUITING



LET'S BRING THEM HOME

Recently while preparing the budget for the Department of Connecticut Convention I came up with an idea. Although not new or innovative, I think we could gain by using it. You already may be doing this but we are not and it's something I want to try to get members back. It used to be the job of the Jr. Vice to follow up on dues and sending out notices to those who were delinquent, we have gotten away from that with the increase in the cost of postage and the availability of email it fell by the wayside.

My idea was to go back to what we used to do and send postcards out to all the delinquent members at the Department level, then pass the list on to each detachment for follow up. But on thinking about it further we might want to invest more into this. We could create a letter with questions and supply a self addressed stamped envelope in hopes of getting even more information back. Five minutes to answer and then sent back to us in hopes of not only regaining members but finding out who moved away or who is deceased. Also, if they do not wish to continue to be a member, please tell us why.

As of April we had in my department 89 unpaid members and that is a loss of income but more importantly a loss in membership. Less people to attend meetings and functions and less Marines to represent us. Since COVID, attendance and participation is down, now is the time to turn that around. There are some encouraging signs that the time is right, so why not go after our missing members first.

If we go with sending out post cards we will inevitably get some members back but it will still leave many unanswered questions. To go the letter route it will be considerably more expensive, but can we put a price on bringing our members back? It is not about bringing them back to boost our budget with dues, but the significance of having our numbers grow.



DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

JOIN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

**MARINES
WANTED**

FIND A DETACHMENT
[HTTPS://WWW.MCLNATIONAL.ORG/FIND-A-DETACHMENT.HTML](https://www.mclnational.org/find-a-detachment.html)



I believe the more visible we are in the community, the more active, we will attract more members and grow. Ever notice when we are in a parade for any holiday in any town the crowd gets more vocal and excited when the Marines march by. Recently, there was a picture from CT in the Newsletter of the Armed Forces Luncheon, there were 12 Marines in the group photo they took. I went back six years and found another picture and there were 21 in the group. We need to reverse course, there is nothing that feels better when you walk into an event and you see a lot of red jackets. There is a big sense of pride, These are my People, and this is my tribe, oohrah !

Consider this as an idea or plan if your department is in the same situation. If it's the postcard just a simple reminder or if you go the letter route think about the answers you want back. One question that should be asked is, can you give us your email address, this is important for all the communications in the future.

Lastly, this is not my column, if you have an idea everyone would love to hear it. All ideas are welcome I never claimed to be the smartest person in the room

Walt Benson

DIVISION SPOTLIGHT

In each Issue I would like to focus on Marines that are bringing their A GAME to the Division and our mission. I would ask that Detachment and Department Commandants, as well as Pack Leaders send in their choices of Members and Dogs who deserve recognition for the work they do and the contributions they make to our success. You should describe their contributions and why they are being recognized , since you know them the best.

THIS ISSUE'S SPOTLIGHT IS ON YOU!!

Yes, in this issue the spotlight falls on you, all of you. As a division you guys rock. Let's look at all the things that have occurred and continue to move us forward to better times. We seem to be making a comeback from COVID, especially this year. I have seen more participation in the events we hold. Mid Winter seemed to have more Marines from the Division than we had the year before, Then we came right back to a great Quad State where even though the hosting Department lost its commandant due to illness, the other members of the Department stepped up and produced a great event.

We then went on to the Department of Massachusetts Convention where we had a new location, great food and some really well planned and entertaining events. There really was a full schedule. We started off with the pistol range for some shooting, followed by Hail Storm Golf, and somehow the golfers survived. On to the Grand Growl, followed by some ax throwing at a local Marine establishment. Then onto a great business meeting and banquet. There was a good size contingent from Rhode Island but Connecticut seemed strong as well.

The Division Conventions ended in Connecticut who to their credit tried to and succeeded at adding new items to the mix. For the first time we had a Friday night dinner which hosted about 33 people. We followed up with a Great Grand Growl and successful raffle. The business meeting and Banquet were better than ever and attendance was pretty good.

I have noticed that attendance was up in all of our event with more people from

Connecticut attending the Massachusetts Convention, and more Massachusetts People attending Connecticut.

This is all recent but let's look back. We have Division Vice Commandant that has led us for five years, and is now seeking to continue to serve and take on more responsibility in more of a leadership role. We also have our next National Commandant who works tirelessly for all in the Division. We have a new Division Vice commandant ready to take the helm in August, Pat Maguire, and a new assistant in Mike Hinds. I don't think there will be so much as a hiccup in this conversion. This Newsletter will complete two years with this issue, which is due to Dave Porter, trying to fulfill something Jim Lasky always wanted. Every challenge, every obstacle that was put in the path of this Division was met and overcome by you.

Without you there is nothing, what you do, no matter how small or how large, helps us move forward. It all counts, donate a raffle prize, sell raffle tickets, be a detachment, department or Division officer, work on a committee for a convention, bylaws, or to raise funds or awareness. Become a Dog, or advance in the Dogs. Submit photos, or an article for the newsletter. Submit events your Department or convention are running. It really baffles me when I beg for Photos from events when I see the people taking pictures and if you are in the picture there is always one more. What do they do with those photos if you don't send them in.

So New England Division keep up the great work, take a bow the kudos are to you.

Semper Fi NEW ENGLAND DIVISION

Walt Benson



2023

AUGUST

2023



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4 CONGRESS CHARTERED THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE 100 YEARS	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
MCL 100TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OKLAHOMA CITY						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



2023 **SEPTEMBER** 2023

SUNDAY

MONDAY

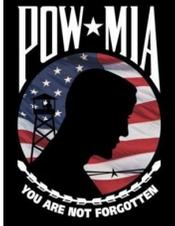
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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3	4 HAPPY LABOR DAY	5	6	7	8	9	
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Marine Corps History



I thought I would try something different this time, as our NEAVC Pat Maguire went to Gitmo for the 125th anniversary of the battle of Cuzco Well, on June 14th 1998. The following information is taken from The National Museum of The Marine Corps.

Cuba had been in rebellion against Spain since 1895. Soon after the uprising began, two insurgent leaders, José Martí and General Máximo Gómez, had landed at the beach of Ca-jobabo, between Guantánamo Bay and Cape Maisí. After three years of fighting throughout the island, however, the rebels had only been victorious in the provinces of Oriente and Camagüey. Following the explosion of the battleship USS Maine in Havana harbor in February 1898, the U.S. declared war on Spain to support the Cuban insurgents. Havana harbor was blockaded, and by the end of May, the Spanish fleet was bottled up in Santiago Bay, 40 miles west of Guantánamo Bay by the U.S. Navy. In the U.S., an expeditionary force was rapidly being readied for action in Cuba, creating an alliance with the Cuban insurgents. Guantánamo Bay was of commercial importance to the U.S. because of the sugar port of Caimanera on the western shore of the inner bay. So, it became an immediate target for the U.S. forces. Despite the insurgents' nominal offensive position in Guantánamo Bay's vicinity, Spanish regulars and Cuban partisans held Guantánamo City, the port of Caimanera, and the railroad connecting the two cities. They also controlled the sugar mills and other outlying strong points. The Guantánamo garrison consisted of some 5,000 men under the command of Spanish General Felix Pareja. A Spanish blockhouse stood on the hill overlooking the village on Fisherman's Point near the bay entrance. A fort on Cayo del Toro commanded the relatively narrow channel leading from outer to inner bay. The Spanish gunboat Sandoval was based at Caimanera on the inner bay, and a string of blockhouses defended the railroad to Guantánamo City. The First Battalion Marines landed at Guantánamo unopposed on 10 June with five of its six companies. Commander George Reiter, the USS Panther captain, had refused to authorize the ship's personnel for unloading duties, thus leaving the artillery company aboard. Reiter also refused to permit the unloading of the remainder of the Marines' small arms ammunition, claiming that it was needed for the ship's ballast. LtCol. Robert Huntington sought assistance from Commander Bowman McCalla, who ordered Reiter to release the Marines' ammunition at once. Fully armed, the Marines burned village huts and the remains of the blockhouse with all their contents to avoid the possibility of yellow fever. The Spanish had fled in such a hurry that clothing, money, jewelry, and weapons had been left behind. The battalion raised the American flag, the first U.S. military unit on Cuban soil, and sent out detachments for outpost duty.

Around 0800 hours of 14 June 1898, Marine Companies "C" and "D" and approximately fifty Cubans moved through the hills to seize Cuzco Well. The region around the well consisted of four Spanish infantry companies and two companies of loyalist guerrilla forces totaling some 500 men. By capturing and destroying the only nearby freshwater source, it was hoped that the defending Spanish forces would be forced to leave the area.

The USS Dolphin moved east along the shore, ready to furnish naval gunfire support if needed. The Spanish soon discovered the Marines' movement, and their main body near the well was alerted. The Marines and Cuban rebels National Museum of the Marine Corps For Internal Use Only occupied the hill, which overlooked the enemy's position, but were immediately subjected to heavy long-range rifle fire. Capt George Elliott signaled the Dolphin to shell the Spanish position. Because the message sender was not clearly visible, the message was misinterpreted, and the vessel began dropping shells on a small detachment of Marines who were en route to join the fight. Sgt. John Quick solved the problem by redirecting the fire of the USS Dolphin. Using a large blue and white polka-dotted bandana he acquired from a Cuban guerrilla, Quick scrambled to the top of the hill where he was plainly silhouetted against the sky-blue horizon. With the flag attached to a long crooked stick, he calmly turned his back to the enemy and began wig-wagging his flag. As a detachment Marine onboard a Navy ship, Quick knew the naval signal technique needed to redirect the Dolphin's fire. He was immediately subjected to furious enemy rifle fire. While enemy bullets cut through the bushes and screamed overhead, he continued to signal the Dolphin calmly. Letter by letter, the message to the ship was spelled out in the dot-dash code. When Quick finished the message, the ship answered. He then picked up his Lee-Winchester rifle and resumed his place on the firing line. War Correspondent Stephen Crane later described the scene in his war story "Marines Signaling Under Fire at Guantanamo." The Dolphin shifted her fire, and by 1400 hours, the Spaniards had begun to retreat. For his actions, Sgt. John Quick was awarded the Medal of Honor. Marine Pvt. John Fitzgerald also received the Medal of Honor for his efforts that day. AFTER-MATH: By 1530 hours, the Spaniards had abandoned the battlefield, and all firing had ceased. Most of the Spanish had escaped, but a lieutenant and 17 enlisted men were captured. The Spanish forces suffered 210 casualties, with 60 killed and 150 wounded. Two Marines and two Cuban rebels had been wounded, along with two Cuban insurgents killed. The Marines' most serious casualties were from heat exhaustion, which disabled one officer and 22 men. The Spanish headquarters building was burned, and the freshwater well at Cuzco was destroyed. This ended its immediate usefulness, including to the Marines, whose officers would not let them drink from it before its destruction, fearing that the Spanish poisoned the water. Water was eventually brought up from the USS Dolphin after a wait of two hours. The threat posed by American forces at Guantánamo Bay, plus the stranglehold on land communications by 1,000 Cuban insurgents, effectively pinned down an army of 7,000 Spaniards, which might have changed Santiago's fighting outcome. Less than a week after Santiago's surrender, Guantánamo Bay's base was used to launch the invasion of Puerto Rico to the east. On 12 August, the Spanish-American War ended with the signing of the peace protocol and an armistice. The new U.S. Naval Base was not formally leased to the U.S. by Cuba until 1903.



Guantánamo Bay Cuba



New England Division was asked to support the travel of a professor from Norwich University to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for the memorial ceremony of the 125th Anniversary of the Battle of Cuzco Well. This is how the request came to us. The Marine Corps Security Forces Company Guantanamo Bay XO, 1stLt. Phelps is a graduate of Norwich, he received a Marine that recollection, he reached port once again. HQ put the Getting all the logistics together for NVC Porter to attend would go in his place, and I Ulbrich and the Marines at that the New England Division, happen. The presentation of fessor Ulbrich was outstanding od of instruction with the Ma- That was due to us not making of the planes capacity was at most out of our stay and the help out the Marines. I hope



Naval Station Headquarters

Norwich. During his studies at Corps League scholarship. With out to MCL HQ to request sup- Lt. in contact with NVC Porter. er, there was a scheduling con- the ceremony. I was asked if I obliged. Lt. Phelps, Professor GTMO were very appreciative MCL assisted with making this the Battle of Cuzco Well by Pro- and he was able to have a peri- rines later on during our stay. our original flight back because its max, so we had to make the Professor is always willing to you enjoy some of the pictures I have shared. Semper Fi!!!



One of the towers occupied by a U.S. Marine



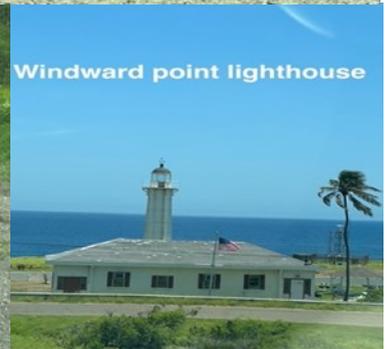
What you will see as you make to the top of "Marine Hill"



This is something to see coming from the Leeward side to the Winward Side of Guantanamo



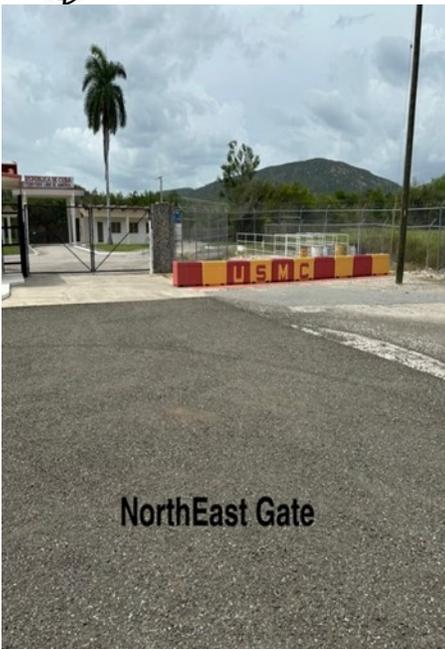
The fenceline separating the good guys and the bad guys



Windward point lighthouse



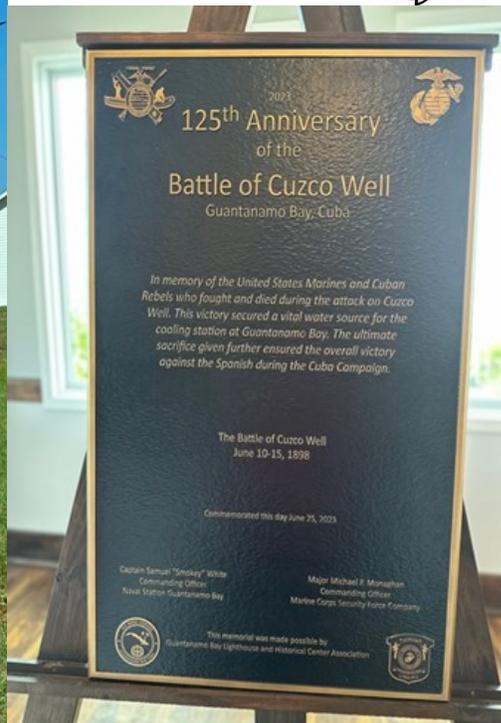
Guantánamo Bay Cuba



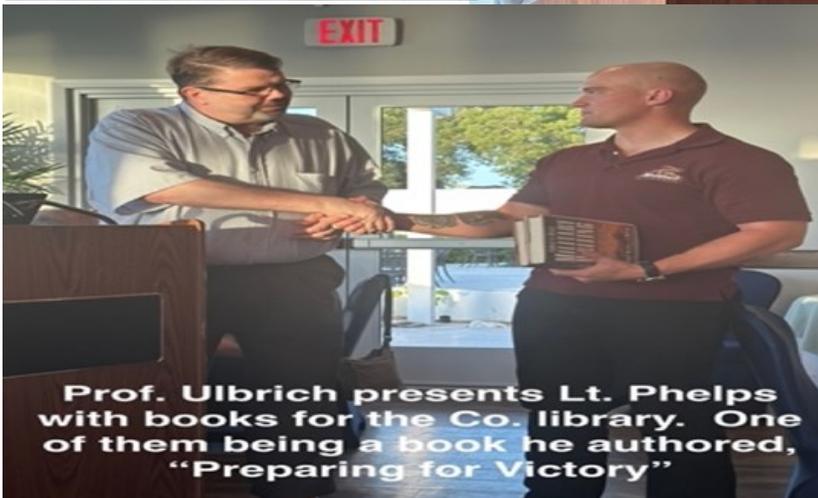
NorthEast Gate



HQ's also referred to as the White House



Just one of the friendly Iguana's we came across



Prof. Ulbrich presents Lt. Phelps with books for the Co. library. One of them being a book he authored, "Preparing for Victory"



Some of the items on display for the ceremony



Guantánamo Bay Cuba



Marine Corps Security Force Co. HQ Staff

1st LT Phelps

GySgt Horta

Maj Monahan

1stSgt Ferrara



Pictured with Marines in USMC uniforms from 1898



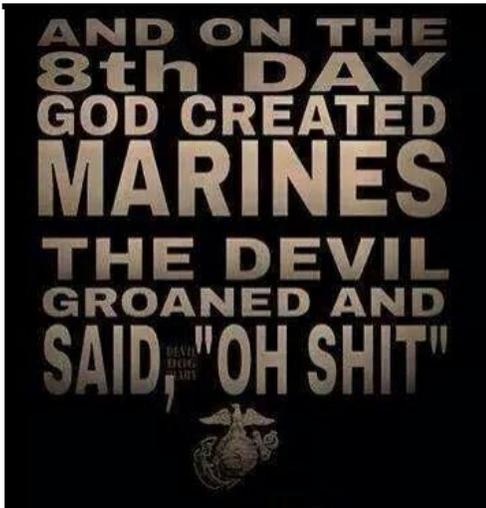
MCSFCO HQ staff and Marines in 1898 uniforms

Patrick Maguire
Commandant
Department of Rhode Island
Asst. Div. Vice Commandant
New England Division
Marine Corps League



You see this, it's safe to say you should turn around and go back

A BIG THANK YOU TO LT. PHELPS AND THE MARINES OF MCSFCO GTMO FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY SEMPER FIDELIS!!!



Regardless of the situation, the Marine Corps has an answer for almost everything.

A Marines Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer. Amen

Marine Corps League National Convention 2023

100th Anniversary MCL, Oklahoma City

August 14th through August 19th

Banquet is Friday August 19th

OMNI HOTEL

100 West Oklahoma City Blvd.,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73109

Phone: (405) 438-6500



2024

NATIONAL CONVENTION – WESTIN RANCHO MIRAGE GOLF RESORT AND SPA

71333 Dinah Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Dates

Monday, August 12, 2024, to Friday, August 16, 2024