

THE JARHEAD JOURNAL

Tom Koncan, Commandant (Commandant@lakecountymarines.com)

www.lakecountymarines.com



All the Best Dressed
lined up and
Commandant Koncan
started waving the
gavel. The lads lost
out to the lacy,

Marcia Sroka!
Congratulations

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801



Click on the picture above of the O'Hare Irish Dancer and watch them dance.



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

The Jarhead Journal

Published Monthly

Editor: Mel Ellingsen

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(847) 274-8144

www.lakecountymarines.com

Detachment Officers

Commandant:	Tom Koncan
Senior Vice-Commandant:	Ed Cooper
Junior Vice-Commandant:	Allan Perez
Judge Advocate:	Peter Karlovics
Paymaster:	Nolan Webster
Adjutant:	John Jezioro
Chaplain:	Joe Womack
Asst. Chaplin	MGYSgt. Wayne Carle
Sgt. at Arms:	Carter Mitchell
Color Guard Commander:	Ed Mampe
Quartermaster:	Frank Contee
Va Hospital Visits:	Linda Smolich
Junior Past Commandant	Charles Walgreen
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen
VAC Rep:	Oliver Davidson

Our next meeting is scheduled for

15 March (Tuesday)

Start Time 1830 or 6:30 pm

Steven's Restaurant

Where Stuff Is

- #1 St Paddy's Day Meeting & Dinner
- #2 More St Paddy's Day
- #3 Where Stuff Is
- #4 Recruiting Poster
- #5 NEW Shake the Can Dates for 2025
- #6 Chaplain's Corner
- #7 Color Guard
- #8 VA Hospital Visits
- #9 Eagle Scouts
- #10 SMED Said!
- #11 Foundation Report
- #12 Related Military Internet Links
- #13 More Military Internet Links

[Click to Pay Your Dues Here.](#)

If you are not getting my emails with the meeting minutes, email me, John Jezioro at jezfamily11@ameritech.net or text me at 847-807-0736 and we'll get it worked out.
_John Jezioro, Adjutant.

SAVE THE DATES

First *Shake the Can* 10 May

Memorial Day Remembrance and Picnic - 31 May - Saturday

A CALL TO ACTION FOR OUR DETACHMENT

WE NEED MORE MEMBERS

Strength in Unity and Numbers

As members of the Best Damn Detachment, we have shared experiences that forge bonds unlike any other. Our camaraderie as Marines and Corpsman, built on mutual respect and understanding, provides a unique support system. Now is the time to extend this haven to others who have served but have yet to find the Marine Corps League

Why We Need to Expand

Each new member enriches our detachment with their individual stories, skills, and perspectives. By growing our numbers, we not only strengthen our solidarity but also enhance our ability to support one another. Imagine the wealth of experiences and knowledge that could be shared, the new friendships that could blossom, and the collective wisdom that could guide us all.

Benefits of a Larger Detachment

- **Greater Support Network:** More members mean more resources and support for each of us. Whether someone needs advice, companionship, or assistance, a larger group can provide a stronger safety net.
- **Diverse Perspectives:** New members bring fresh viewpoints and ideas, which can help us tackle challenges in innovative ways.
- **Enhanced Activities:** With more hands-on deck, we can organize more events, outings, and activities that cater to a wider variety of interests.

How to Find New Members

Recruiting new members requires a proactive approach and a genuine desire to connect with others. Here are a few strategies to consider:

Start with Your Networks-Church, Social media, Your local Watering Hole

Think about that guy wearing the USMC cover you see while shopping or that USMC flag flying on a house down the street. Or, that car in the Walmart parking lot with the USMC decal on the window. Pick up a handful of applications at the next meeting and leave them on car windows and front doors. Print the following poster and get it into your favorite bar.



HELP US CELEBRATE OUR
BIRTHDAY ALL YEAR
LONG. IT WILL BE 250
YEARS ON 10 NOVEMBER
2025.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR MARINES AND FMF CLERGY & CORPSMEN!

We are the Lake County Marines Corps League
Detachment 801. We meet on the third Tuesday
starting at 1830 at Steven's Restaurant - Gurnee.

Check us out at

SEMPER FIDELIS



From Ed Cooper-Sr. Vice Commandant

As of: Saturday March 22nd

2025 Fundraising Dates and Locations - “Shake The Can”

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Sat, 5/10	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco (New Date - Location) 1300 S. Milwaukee-Libertyville
Sat, 6/7	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco (Location Change) 885 E. Belvidere Rd Grayslake
Sat, 7/12	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco 6509 W Grand Ave, Gurnee
Sat, 7/26	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco 900 E Rollins Rd., Round Lake Beach
Sat, 8/16	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco 6509 W Grand Ave, Gurnee
Sat, 9/6	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco 3124 N Lewis Ave, Waukegan
Sat, 9/20	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco 900 E Rollins Rd., Round Lake Beach
Sat, 10/4	10am-3pm	Jewel-Osco 1300 S. Milwaukee-Libertyville

Call Ed with your questions: (760) 533-3850

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chaplain's Message March 2025

Just recently I noticed new daffodils, the floral emblems of March, growing in the yard. Are we fortunate to have sunshine and warmth for Easter?

This signifies a rebirth of the seasons; a perfect time for us to thank the lord for all that he has given us, enjoy our family and friends and reach out to those we know who are in need.

For those of you unable to attend our St Patrick's Day party it was a fun time, full of laughter, good will and camaraderie. On top of that the Irish Dancers performed, reminding us all of our youth.

Thank Steven's for the tasty corn beef and cabbage that all enjoyed.

Semper Fi!

Joe Womack

Chaplain



COLOR & HONOR GUARD



Color and Honor Guard

The color guard has practice on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, at the American Legion in Gurnee starting at 1830.

Ed Mampe - Color Guard Commander

PH #847-641-9689

CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FHCC VISITS



WANTED: WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN so we can keep this rewarding program going that Warren Blacklock started in December 2007. That's 18 years ago!!

WHEN: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month
TIME: 13:30 to 15:00 (1:30 to 3:00 PM)
WHERE: Captain James A. Lovell Hospital, North
Chicago (We meet in the canteen in the main building).

CONTACT: Voluntary Service Office
Building 135, Room 101
Phone: 224-610-3714

There is a process that ensures the safety and well-being of our Veterans and their families, and provides a successful volunteer experience.

- General Orientation & Volunteer Application
- Background investigation
- Tuberculosis (TB) screening
- Photo & ID Tag

All this can be done in a couple of hours on the same day.

Please join our team and let's cheer up our veterans and make a difference!! Please contact Linda Smolich if interested and if you have any questions. Her phone is: (847) 204-5348



EAGLE SCOUTS



Prior to 2010	13
2010	47
2011	63
2012	69
2013	54
2014	84
2015	81
2016	77
2017	127
2018	79
2019	87
2020	69
2021	83
2022	77
2023	53
2024	54
2025	37

I thought it might be interesting to see how many Ka-Bar presentations we have done. Through March 2025 the total is 1,154.

We're always looking for help making these presentations.

Mel Ellingsen (847) 274-8144 Eagle Scout Chair



and

then

"SMED"

said

RECRUITMENT

To all my Marine Corps League Brothers and Sisters in Lake County, Semper Fi!
Recruiting seems to be a constant topic with any organization, and not only within our own Marine Corps League. As I have heard several times, "The day your organization stops growing is the day it begins dying"!

I have a little story relating to that subject to share with you.

About nine years ago, my bride and I went out to a local eatery for their Friday Night Fish Fry. While being shown to our seats, we were stopped by a foursome we knew quite well, from a remark made by one of them, "Why are you not a member of our local Marine Corps League?" I was taken by surprise and could not come up with a proper reply as he went on extolling the benefits of membership. I begged off the conversation as my lady was now seated at a table waiting to order.

The following Sunday afternoon, while sitting on my back deck enjoying a liquid refreshment, around the corner of the house arrives the same individual from last Friday night's encounter with a membership form in one hand and insisting I sign it. Interestingly, he and I had known each other since the late '50's as members of the 43rd Special Infantry Marine Corps Reserve Company meeting at Great Lakes. He was in the first Platoon with all the Waukegan Marines and I was in the Third with the Kenosha Marines.

Later we kept in touch because he married a Winthrop Harbor lady I knew in High School who was "besties" of friends with my sister Sondra since they were Sophomores together. As I remember, he joined the Waukegan Police Department the year Mayor Sabonjian fired nearly the whole department when they went on strike. He worked his way up through the ranks until his retirement as Captain.

He also served as Commandant of the "801" and was my "ex-officio historian" of past detachment events from way back when. I always tried to sit with him while attending meetings, and more than once we were cautioned to stop talking during the meeting.

We lost Will Theehs last month, and I lost a friend and fellow Marine Brother. His lady, Meg lost her best friend (my Sis) last December.

Thanks to Will and Sondra's husband Jess for putting forth their efforts to sign me up as a member. I would have missed so much had it not been for the efforts of those two. I remain indebted!

"Fair winds and fair seas" to the both of you.

See all of you next month? Go sign up a "bestie" to join our detachment!

Semper Fidelis my friends.

Lake County Marine Corps League Foundation

Officers and Directors

President- Charles Walgreen

Treasurer- Mel Ellingsen

Secretary- Jerry Pedrin

Directors

Jim Sroka, Ed Mampe, Warren Blacklock, Col. Jim Swab,
Al Seyler and Nolan Webster.

The Foundation donated \$1,000 to the Lake County Honor Flight organization.

Charles Walgreen
President



Related Military Links to Click

Midwest Veterans Closet

US Department of Veterans Affairs

Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission

Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs

Marine Corps League Headquarters

Honor Flight Lake County

Illinois Marine

VFW Action Corps Weekly

American Legion

Sgt Grit

PTSD Resources

Past copies of the Jarhead Journal can be viewed here:

www.lakecountymarines.com/newsletters

Marine Corps League (MCL) Resources

Websites:

www.mclnational.org – MCL national website – **SHIPS STORE**

www.mcleaguelibrary.org – MCL national public documents / resources

www.mcleaguelibrary.org/member-library - Password (DD2), library holds meeting minutes, forms, national bylaws / administrative procedures manuals to include MCL uniform guidance and MCL awards guidance, etc.

_____ <https://theillinoismarine.com> _____ Department website

_____ <https://lakecountymarines.com> _____ Detachment website

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/mclnational - MCL National

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064587650733 Chicago Area MC Co-Council

www.facebook.com/groups/67134899955 2nd District Facebook

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068070852934 Department Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/48678176402 Detachment Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/groups/mclhonorguardandcolorguard - MCL Honor Guard / Color Guard

www.facebook.com/groups/447677227018622 - MCL National Membership Committee

www.facebook.com/groups/mcluniforms - MCL Uniforms Buy-Sell-Trade

www.facebook.com/groups/mclconnections - MCL Connections (MCL members only)

www.facebook.com/groups/usmccollectibles - USMC Sell Your Sh**!

Other:

www.youtube.com/themarinecorpsleague - Click “subscribe” for new content

www.instagram.com/hqmcl – MCL national Instagram

www.militaryorderofthedevidogs.org – MODD Kennel website

www.nationalmcla.org – MCL national Auxiliary

www.linkedin.com/company/marine-corps-league - MCL national LinkedIn

We encourage you all as members to visit these websites and social media pages. Take a look around and know all the resources available to you on these platforms. Please share this information with all members not only in leadership positions, but your Detachment members.

*Questions about any of these resources can be addressed directly to the **MCL** National Public Relations Committee for assistance.*

publicrelations@mcleague.org