

# THE JARHEAD JOURNAL

Richard "Smedley" Butler, Commandant ([Commandant@lakecountymarines.com](mailto:Commandant@lakecountymarines.com))

[www.lakecountymarines.com](http://www.lakecountymarines.com)



## **The Jarhead Journal Published monthly**

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### **Detachment Officers**

Commandant:	Richard Butler
Senior Vice-Commandant:	Gerald Pedrin
Junior Vice-Commandant:	Randal Christopher
Judge Advocate:	Peter Karlovics
Paymaster:	Ed Mampe
Adjutant:	John Jezioro
Sgt. at Arms:	Art Castillo
Asst. Sgt. at Arms:	Clint Chia
Chaplain:	Hank Landrau
Quartermaster:	Toy Keeton
Asst. Quartermaster:	Scott Bastean
Historian:	(open)
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen

### ***The Editor's Area by Mel Ellingsen***

We celebrated the 'Wearing of the Green' at our March meeting. Primo Resturant did a great job serving us corned beef and cabbage to mark the day!

Semper Fi!

Don't forget to Like us [here](#) on Facebook!



**Who is this mystery  
Marine of 801?**



**Last month's Mystery Marine  
was Randy Christopher.**

### **Where Stuff Is**

1. Cover page, recent highlights
2. Officers, this list
3. Commandants' and Chaplain's Chat
4. Senior Vice Comments
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**COMMANDANT'S  
CORNER**

**To all Marines and FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains of "The Best Damned Detachment in the Nation".**

On March 24th, I had the privilege and honor of assisting in the funeral at St. Josephs' Church in Hammond, Indiana for a World War II Marine Veteran, Oscar Ortega. Oscar served in the Pacific Islands and was the uncle of our Life Member Roy Cuevas.

With the ongoing attrition to members of what I have heard referred to as "The Greatest Generation", I am pleased to know that Detachment #801 will continue to assist these families of Marines as they are called to "their final duty station".

To have a live Bugler (Jim Reynolds) playing Taps during these functions lends a whole new dimension to our rifle squad which consisted of John Pickelman, Jerry Pedrin, and Al Seyler conducting the rifle volley. Thank you Marines!

For a little change of pace, if you have grown weary of watching and reading all the negative news the media enjoys throwing at us, here is a suggestion to see something much more upliftings.

Grab your significant other and come on out to;

- 1) United Protestant Church (54 South Whitney) in Grayslake at 1300 hrs on April 8th, or,
- 2) First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest (700 North Sheridan Road) at 1330 on April 15th, or,
- 3) Bernies' Book Bank in Lake Bluff (917 North Shore Drive) on April 15th at 1400 hrs, or,
- 4) First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield (824 Waukegan Road) on April 22nd at 1100 hrs, or,
- 5) St. Gilbert Church Chapel Basement (301 East Belvidere) in Grayslake on April 29th at 1200 hrs, or,
- 6) First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville (219 West Maple) on April 30th at 1400 hrs.

Watch as several of your fellow Detachment members present Marine Ka-Bars to some of the most squared away, with-it young men you will never see on the ten o'clock news. They have earned the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America, Eagle Scout, and our Detachment was requested to attend and make these presentations.

They usually serve cake after!!

Semper Fidelis!

Smedley (847/648-6859) (Mar. '17)

**CHAPLAIN'S  
CHAT**

Though Easter Sunday may fall on different days each year, its meaning and message never changes. Before we can understand and appreciate what it is, we need to know what it isn't.

It isn't about the Easter bunny and chocolate eggs, it isn't about hiding eggs for the young and young at heart to find. These things are fun but miss the true meaning!

The real reason is more meaningful and profound.

On this special Sunday we celebrate:

Jesus Christ's rising from the dead, HIS resurrection!

He died three days earlier for the forgiveness of our sins and purchased our salvation; by rising from the dead he assured us eternal life.

This is not something that we earned or deserve, it is a gift freely given. By accepting this gift, you will change your life.

If you are ready to accept HIM as your Lord and Savior, pray a prayer like this:

"Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of GOD. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Please forgive my sins and give me the gift of eternal life. I ask you into my life and my heart to be my Lord and Savior. I want serve your always"

If you have questions or want to know more, don't hesitate to contact me.

Happy Easter, Semper FI

Hank Landrau, 847-652-7764

**SR. VICE COMMANDANT'S CORNER**

Jerry Pedrin

A hearty hello to the men and women of the "Best Damn Detachment in the Nation." I have been sitting here with the computer in front of me wondering what to send to all of you this month. I came to realize that this is the time of the year that we must make early decisions that will define us for the next few weeks. Do we clean the yard, plant new flowers, and repair or replace the winter tools, or start the spring-cleaning. Most of these things have already been determined right down to their order and date by the women of the house. We just haven't learned about them yet.

Some things I learned early on is that you should not put off the things that really need to be done as the longer you wait, the worse the chore will become. I also learned that you never skimp on doing the job. Doing it right the first time will save you a lot of time and money as time goes on. Another thing learned is that if you get someone to help you, you will get the job done easier and the time spend doing same will be much more enjoyable.

We can see great examples of the latter as we look back over the past several months. Standing outside in the wind and cold soliciting funds we did not directly benefit from was a good example. It seems that the more people that were there the easier the job became. We were all able to see friends that we had not seen in a while and took the time to communicate with them as the day went on. It made the weather a little more tolerable and the task a little easier. We can't always change the task, but we can find ways to make the process easier and more enjoyable.

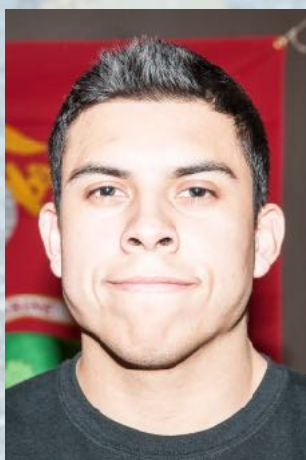
We are soon going to begin fundraising for our detachment. I will have a schedule at the April meeting for everyone to sign up for. I tried to keep all the dates on Saturday and to move around the County as much as possible. It is hoped that you will be as generous with your time as you have been in the past. Remember, this time we are fundraising for things we would like to spend money on.

The signs of a healthy and growing detachment is Membership, Money, and Fun.

We need the members to be able to accomplish the things we wish to do. We need the Money to be able to pay for the things we wish to do. We need the Fun to keep both the membership and money coming to the detachment so we are able to do the things we wish to do. So far, we have been doing a tremendous job of all three. Lets do our job to keep up the detachment in whichever way we can to keep this the "Best Damn Detachment in the Nation."

Jerry Pedrin 847-687-6663

## WELCOME ABOARD



Anthony Kerrill joined the Corps in 2011 with boot camp at MCRD San Diego. His MOS was 3531(Motor T) and was stationed at Camp Lejeune. He was discharged as a Corporal in 2015. He is single and lives in Waukegan.



John Sawyer joined the Corps in the early 70's starting out at MCRD San Diego. Then more training at Camp Pendleton as a 0311 (Grunt) before getting shipped off to Vietnam. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1975. He is married and lives in Gurnee.



**CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FHCC VISITS**



**VA HOSPITAL VISITATION TEAM**

It is that time of the year when we start to get antsy about getting out and doing something now that the weather is warming up. We all want to get out and enjoy the new season and watch the flowers grow and the sun shining on our faces. It is also the time of year when a few of us decide that we made a commitment and must now start staying indoors a few hours every other week to visit the Veterans at the VA hospital.

We have made the commitment to see these veterans and try to bring a little joy into their lives at a time when they are near their lowest. It is never a good time to be feeling ill, tired, or just worn out and a lot of the veterans there in the hospital feel those feelings daily. They really light up when we walk onto the wards and start our visits.

The last visit we made we discovered that one of our regulars was in bed asleep. By looking at him we could see that he appeared to have slipped a lot since we saw him two weeks before that. He breathing was very shallow and his color was almost the same as a dirty white sock. Most of us felt that we have to admit he will not be with us much longer. It would appear his final orders are being processed.

With the thought of him receiving his final orders in mind I thought I would explain how a veteran is escorted to his final resting place after receiving his final orders.

Once the veteran passes, a message is sent out through out the hospital that John Jones, USXXX veteran has died. A time is set for his final salute. People from each and every unit of the hospital go to his ward and line the halls from his room to the exit door. A priest arrives and administers last rites over the body. The gurney is then draped with a flag and the group is called to attention. The gurney is then slowly taken past each of the people who render a final salute to the veteran. This procedure is the same for ALL veterans who get their final orders while in the hospital. This is a very solemn experience and one that each of us should witness at least once in our lives.

With that in mind, I guess I will gladly get up, put on my red shirt and meet the rest of the VA hospital team the second and fourth Thursdays at 2:00P.M. to visit the veterans who still remain patients at the hospital and thank them for their service and wish them a speedy recovery. We always have room for one more if you feel you would like to join us.

Jerry Pedrin 847-687-6663



## **COLOR & HONOR GUARD**



It was only fitting that our Color Guard was able to get a picture with the Cub's World Series Trophy after their visit to Wrigley Field this past summer. (Editor's Note: I liked these photos so much there are here again for you to enjoy.)



Hello Marines FMF Corpsman, and Associate Members: On 3 -24 the Color Guard was honored to do a rifle volley for World War II Marine veteran Oscar Ortega. Oscar is the Uncle of our life member Roy Cuevas. Full military honors were given to this greatest generation Marine.

Training will continue on Thursday April 14.

Semper Fi John Pickelman-- Color Guard Commander  
[pjohn789@aol.com](mailto:pjohn789@aol.com)

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

### Membership Statistics

No longer will National MCL  
mail out dues reminders.  
Please mail your check for  
\$35 for your dues to:

Lake County Detachment  
801 MCL  
P.O. Box 7732  
Gurnee, IL 60031

Regular	74
Reg-Dual	1
Regular Marines	0
Life	69
Associate	9
Associate-Life	2
Assoc. Life Dual	1
Ass.-Life-Honor	1
Total	157
Regular	75
Life	69
Associate	13
Total	157

**Our next meeting in  
Monday 17 April  
at  
Primo Resturant  
720 Milwaukee Ave.  
Gurnee, IL**

### Life Membership Rates

A g e Group	L i f e Membership
0-35	\$500
36-50	\$400
51-64	\$300
64- over	\$200





# **EAGLE SCOUT'S**



## **Scheduled Eagle Scout Presentations**

- 4/8 1:00 PM, United Protestant Church 54 S. Whitney Grayslake
- 4/15 1:30 PM, First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, 700 N. Sheridan Rd
- 4/15 2:00 PM, Bernie's Book Bank 917 N. Shore Dr., Lake Bluff
- 4/22 11:00 AM, First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield 824 Waukegan Rd Deerfield
- 4/23 3:00 PM, Adler Park Lodge 1500 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville
- 4/29 12:00 PM, St. Gilbert Church Chapel Basement 301 E. Belvidere Rd, Grayslake
- 4/29 3:00 PM, Wildwood Presbyterian Church 18630 West Old Gages Lake Rd. Grayslake
- 4/30 Noon, Antioch Township Center 1625 Deep Lake Rd., Lake Villa
- 4/30 2:00 PM, First Presbyterian Church 219 W. Maple Ave. Libertyville
- 4/30 2:00 PM, Glenview Park Center-Lakeview Rm. 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview
- 4/30 2:00 PM, CROYA 400 Hastings Lake Forest

## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801**

### **Lake County Detachment Marine Corps League Foundation, Inc Officers**

President-	Al Seyler
Treasurer-	Mel Ellingsen
Secretary-	Jerry Pedrin

#### **Directors**

Jim Sroka, Randy Christopher, Ed Mampe, Warren Blacklock and Joe Wallace

Purpose of the Foundation as a 501 3 (c) tax exempt organization is to provide comfort, support, financial assistance and educational aid to improve the quality of life for military personnel in all branches of the United States Armed Forces and veterans who have served and their families.

If you know or hear of any Veteran or Family that could use some assistance, contact us.

Semper Fi

Al Seyler  
President  
847-220-1525

***Related Military Links***

**US Department of Veterans Affairs**

**Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs**

(Updated 2/28/17)

**Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission**

(Updated 2/28/17)

**VFW Action Corps Weekly**

**Honor Flight McHenry County**

**Honor Flight Lake County**

**Veterans R & R**

**Marine Corps League Hdqrs**

**Illinois Marine**

**Sgt Grit**