

# THE JARHEAD JOURNAL

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

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



Our September meeting was held upstairs in the Barrel Room at Primo.



Shaun Piccolo (former Det 801 Adjutant) gets sworn in a Jr. Vice in the Marine Forever Detachment, Land-O-Lakes, FL.



Now is the time to order your USMC jacket from our Quartermaster, Al Blut, at our next meeting.

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

### 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:	Al Blut
Asst. Quartermaster:	Scott Bastean
Historian:	(open)
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen

**Our next meeting is Monday  
16 October starting at  
1800 (6 PM).**

**This is our Officer  
Installation Meeting/Dinner.  
Please bring your significant  
other and enjoy dinner  
following the meeting  
downstairs  
at  
Primo Resturant**

The mystery is that we need more pictures from your Marine Corps personal photo album. Please bring those images of yourself (it works best that way) to our October meeting and I'll make a copy during the meeting.

#### Where Stuff Is

1. Cover page, recent highlights
2. Officers, this list
3. Commandants' and Chaplain's Chat
4. Senior Vice Comments
5. VA Hospital Visitation
6. Color & Honor Guard
7. Eagle Scout Report
8. Foundation Board and Committee members
9. Links to other Veterans Web Sites



[Click here to see the Cubs Video of the Color Guard posting Colors. Turn your sound up.](#)

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

### COMMANDANT'S CORNER

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

Thank you for enduring a year of reading my monthly musings. I have tried to keep them interesting as well as keeping you apprised as to what is occurring within your Detachment. It came as a surprise to me that some were very easy to write. Others involved dealing with having to really search for something I thought you might enjoy.

This will be my last contribution to the 'COMMANDANT'S CORNER' as Jerry Pedrin will be installed as your new Commandant for the coming year.

I leave you in good hands to carry on the mission of leading 'The Best Damned Detachment in the Nation' as you follow our newly elected leaders for 2017/18.

To all our members, I say 'THANK YOU' for allowing me the opportunity to represent you at the various venues during the last year. Whether at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, a Color Guard event, a Toys for Tots outing or the various fund raising events, I truly enjoyed interacting with the folks we saw and hearing their stories and what they thought of us. Regardless of what we may see and hear in the media, the Marine Corps is very well respected by the average citizen. I am proud to be a part of that.

I thank all of you for the support you have given me. I appreciate those of you that came forward with new ideas. Some were used, and some were not, but all were appraised and useful to me. Actually, I honestly valued and required those of you that had opposing opinions from mine. They allowed me to determine if I was indeed heading in the right direction by discussing those viewpoints with you.

This last year has been a whirl of activity, and I sincerely hope all members will support Jerry and the new administration as well as you did me and mine. I strongly recommend each of you to consider running for one of the leadership positions in the future. It will be an experience you will always treasure! I will. Thank you!

-30-

Our Installation Dinner will again occur at the October meeting beginning one hour earlier (at 1800 hours).

You can see how important it is to attend the next twelve meetings to add your input keeping the #801 the 'Best Damned Detachment in the Nation!'

Semper Fidelis!

Smedley  
(c) 847/648-6859

### CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

COME AS YOU ARE

September 2017

How often have we been invited to attend a function and after getting the "when and where" the next question is: What will I wear? Is it "formal, semi formal or casual?"

We "clean" ourselves first and then we go to the party.

When we attend the "celebration of salvation", the opposite is true. We come in our filthy rags, our unclean spirit, WE COME AS WE ARE, and our HOST cleans us!

He says 'I GOT THIS, and proceeds to cover us with HIS blood. He makes us "presentable" before the KING. And it's all free, for all eternity! We don't have to spend a penny; you see HE paid for it.

In today's terminology, not only do we have a "back up", we have a point man, we have our flanks covered and our "six" is protected. We can accept any mission with a high confidence of success, because HE is with us.

So, let's not stand on the sidelines, life is too short, and much is expected of us. Pick up the ball and start running, it's never too late! There is still much to do. Helping our neighbor clean the yard, mentoring a young person, offering solace to someone, or being there for someone who's gone through a natural catastrophe.

We can do so much when we are empowered by our God. The best thing is that it doesn't matter how young or old you are or how much physical prowess you have! If you have the will, He will give you the SPIRIT.

SEMPER FI, and God bless you

Hank Landrau  
(c) (847) 652-7764

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

### SR. VICE COMMANDANT'S CORNER

I wish to extend a warm greeting to each of you in the "Best Damn Detachment in the Nation." I just realized that this will be the last time I address each of you as the Senior Vice Commandant of this detachment. I never thought that I would be at this point sometime in my life but here I am.

I wish to say that it has been a pleasure working as your Senior Vice for the past year. I have learned a lot of things that I never thought about before this and came to realize that this detachment is one that works together well. There is no wonder we are as good as we are. It has been my pleasure to work along side each of you throughout the year.

I have worked diligently to pass this office on to my successor in at least as good a shape as I got it. I tried to make it better in any way that I could and hopefully I have done so. As I leave, I have already scheduled the Toys for Tots events for this fall and all the paperwork has been to do secure the locations and times. I will be working with your new Senior Vice, Oliver to make sure that we continue to do the best we can in each area.

I have scheduled meetings with the new Marine Reserve Toys for Tots Coordinator and the new Col. for MACG 48 and the Coordinator of Weapons Company 2/24 to ensure that things run smoother than they did last year. Those meeting will occur soon and it is hoped we will all be on the same page when we are done.

I am out collecting T4T boxes as we speak and we have already ordered flags for the upcoming activities. We were able to have one of our members collect a supply of pencils that can also be handed out.

Our first Toys for Tots fundraiser this year will be Sunday, October 15, 2017. It will be at the Jewel on Deerfield Road in Highland Park just off Rte 41. As last year, the times will be from 10am til 3pm. It looks like the first event will be a warm one unlike some of them last year.

Here are the entire list of dates and locations for this season:

Oct 15	Jewel, Deerfield Rd, Highland Park
Oct 28	Jewel, Fox Lake
Nov 4	Walmart, Rte 173 and Deep Lake Rd, Antioch
Nov 11	Jewel, Belvidere Rd, Grayslake
Nov 18	Jewel, Milwaukee Ave, Libertyville
Nov 25	Jewel Grand and Hunt Club, Gurnee
Dec 2	Jewel, Rollins Rd and Rte 83, Round Lake Beach
Dec 9	Hawthorne Mall, Vernon Hills
Dec 16	Gurnee Mills, Gurnee

I will still be attending and working as ever for these events but we should all do our best to show our new Senior Vice that he has a good group of people to work with and that we can get the job done.

Wishing all of you the best as we enter the fall season and our activities began to pick up. Looking forward to seeing all of you at every event you are able to attend.

Jerry Pedrin  
Sr. Vice Commandant 847-687-6663

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801



### VA HOSPITAL VISITATION TEAM

Ladies and Gentlemen

Once again I bring you news of the wonderful world of the Veteran's Hospital visits. We have a dedicated group of about 8 people who make it a point of showing up to visit the Vets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month around 2PM. We divide the group up into three smaller groups and take turns visiting the three areas of the complex that we go to.

One of the areas are the "Green Houses". They are residential living spaces for the older Veterans who have no where else to go and still need medical treatments from time to time. They can be compared to assisted living areas. The people there are always happy to see us and are eager to tell us stories of their service adventures. Some of them lead very interesting lives.

Another area is building 134. These floors are rooms that house veterans that need daily care but with varying degrees of medical problems. These areas can be compared to nursing homes. The people are still able to get out and around on their own to some extent but need to have daily care that they could not get if they were living in their own homes. It is hit or miss with these wards as the vets are able to go out and about at will so we never know if they will be there or not.

The last area is building 133. This is the "Hospital" area of the complex. There are active duty personnel, dependents, and vets from all branches of the service. While visiting there the last couple times we noticed an unusually high number of Navy Recruits being treated for various ailments. These people are really amazed that we would take time to visit with them. They tell us up front that they are just starting their service time and find it hard to believe that we would come visit them when they are sick or injured. They really enjoy our visits.

This past week we went into a room of a Navy vet from Vietnam. He has many serious medical problems and is not always able to communicate with his wife, family, and the nursing staff. His brother, sister, brother-in-law, and wife were all there this week. We had a great visit with them as we have seen them from time to time in the last month or so. Before we left the wife had to thank each of us for visiting. She said she was also very thankful that we do what we do. She said that she is not always able to visit her husband as often as she would like but she knows that he is not forgotten and that people like our group give her comfort when she is not able to visit, knowing that we take the time to visit and spend a few minutes with all the patients no matter what they have wrong. We all walked away from that room feeling a little better for having been there for someone who truly appreciates and needs people that do what we do.

We encourage all of you to come out at least once to see what we do and meet some of the wonderful Veterans in our hospital. You do not need to be a member of our team to visit. If you decide you would like to join our team we would be glad to have you.

Jerry Pedrin  
847-687-6663



## **COLOR & HONOR GUARD**



Scenes from the Lake Forest Day Parade 2017. Photography by Pfoertner/JWC Media

Our Color Guard presented Colors last month at the Cubs game at Wrigley Field. We received a tremendous welcome and were treated wonderfully by the Cubs staff and all the fans. Check out Det. 801 facebook site and our web site to see the videos.

We will post Colors at the Toys for Tots breakfast on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. On Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> we will present Colors at the Lake County Miss Teenager Pageant at 1:30pm at the College of Lake County Auditorium. We will also escort the young ladies to the stage.

Fall is shaping up to be a busy time for us. We are confirming dates and times. We will post the schedule and encourage everyone to come out and join us.

Al Seyler  
Commander



# **EAGLE SCOUTS**



## **Scheduled Eagle Scout Presentations**

### **October and November**

- Oct 14 Nicholas G. Davidson, Troop 50 3:00 PM, Jewel Pavilion 836 Jewel Park Dr. Deerfield (Ellingsen)
- Oct 15 William C. Dowell, Troop 324, 3:00 PM, Family Home at 855 Heather Rd. Deerfield (Carle)
- Oct 22 Austin L. Romero, Troop 451, 3:00 PM, United Protestant Church 54 S. Whitney St Grayslake (Ellingsen)
- Nov 4 Ryan Prieto, Troop 188, 3:00 PM, Antioch Township Center, Deep Lake Rd (Ellingsen)
- Nov 4 Rutvik Sayankar, Troop 671, 2:30 PM, Warren-Newport Public Library 224 O Plane Rd Gurnee. (Homan)
- Nov 25 Spencer Quitin Oakley, Troop 46, First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest (Ellingsen)
- Nov 25 John Horace Draa, Troop 71, 4:00 PM, Adler Park Lodge Libertyville (Homan)

## **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, Ed Mampe, Warren Blacklock and Joe Wallace

After the installation of the Board of Directors and Officers, the Foundation will meet to to set our goals for the coming year.

There are no new Veteran needs that we are aware of at this time.

A meeting is being set with the Sgt. Major and new Commanding Officer of MACG 48 in late October to make them aware of how we can help.

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**

**Marine Corps League Hdqtrs**

Check out the opening video at MCL  
Headquarters. Click Above.

**Illinois Marine**

**Sgt Grit**