

# THE **JARHEAD** JOURNAL

Jerry Pedrin, Commandant ([Commandant@lakecountymarines.com](mailto:Commandant@lakecountymarines.com))

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



## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

### The Jarhead Journal Published Monthly

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#### Detachment Officers

Commandant:	Gerald Pedrin
Senior Vice-Commandant:	Tom Koncan
Junior Vice-Commandant:	Charles Butrim
Judge Advocate:	Peter Karlovics
Paymaster:	Ed Mampe
Adjutant:	John Jezioro
Sgt. at Arms:	Larry Lingen
Asst. Sgt. at Arms:	
Chaplain:	Hank Landrau
Asst. Chaplin	MGSgt. Wayne Carle
Quartermaster:	Skip Holderbaum
Asst. Quartermaster:	
Librarian:	Richard Butler
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen

Our next meeting is Monday  
20 January starting at  
1900 or 7 PM - fellowship earlier.  
Steven's Restaurant  
401 N. Riverside Dr.  
NE corner Rt 21 and Washington St.  
Gurnee, IL

Last Month's Mystery Marine was  
Frank Mateus

#### Where Stuff Is

1. **December Pictures**
2. This Index
3. Commandant's Chat
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5. Please Pay Your Dues
6. VA Hospital Visitation
7. Color & Honor Guard
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Who is this Mystery Marine?

**COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS**

It is that time of the year when we need to stop and reflect on the past year. If we are going to make this the "Best Damn Detachment in the Nation," we need to look at our past actions and see how we measure up. We can't expect things to just happen and happen for the best in our case.

One of the things that we have addressed is the fact that we have brought back a number of people who have left the detachment for a number of reasons. It would seem that a lot of them left because they felt that we were not concerned about them or their needs. We have looked into that area of concern and have established ways of handling that problem. We have had our Officers mingle with all the members before and after the meetings just to talk and see how we can help them or if there is anything we can do to improve ourselves.

Another thing we looked at was the fact that we had not had a memorial celebration for our members that had passed. We decided we would have one and didn't want it to interfere with the Memorial Day activities. We planned one after that and got a shelter at Foss Park in North Chicago to have it. It turned out to be a huge success and we plan on having the event yearly from now on. It is a great way of honoring our past members and bringing all the families together for a day of feasting and celebration.

We have also had an outstanding year at fundraising for Toys for Tots this year again. We need to take some time and evaluate that program and see if there are any ways we can improve or alter the way we operate to make it more efficient and helpful to the people we are trying to reach. We talked about members reaching out to businesses and get them to sell trains starting in October but we did not develop that plan as much as we should have. That is something we need to look into.

We are starting our third year of hosting the Boat Load of Booze Raffle and we really need to discuss how we are going to make this year better than past years. We have made more money each year but we can still do better if we set our minds to doing that.

We need to work on building up the number of volunteers that work our various areas such as Hospital Visits, Color Guard, and Eagle Scout Courts. These activities are only for a few hours when they occur and there is not a whole lot of physical activity needed with them with the exception of Color Guard. These areas give us a lot of exposure in the County and they are things that we need to improve on if we want to reach the people that are not in the League yet.

I am asking each and every one of you to give us a hand with ideas on how to improve any and all areas of the Detachment. Come to the staff meetings on the 1st Monday of each month and give us your ideas. We will listen to you and then evaluate the information you gave. If we are able to do it and the majority agree we will try to implement that idea. We will not be able to do all of them but don't be discouraged if your idea is not acted on for some reason. The only way we will get better is with everyone trying.

I look forward to my last 10 months as your Commandant and hope there are a number of things that we can do together to improve our detachment. Just remember, we can't do it if you don't bring up the idea to us. As always, I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at all the meetings and events to come. Jerry Pedrin (847) 687-6663

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

**December 2019**

I want to begin by saying that I hope everyone had an amazing holiday season! It is my sincere hope that the new year brings us all happiness, prosperity, adventure, the freedom to do something we've never done before, go somewhere we've never been! December, of course is the culmination of a year filled with memory making experiences. The very things that define the quality of our lives. It's a time to reconnect with our love ones, family and friends. It's a time to pause, to reflect on the waning year and plan for what's coming next. It's a time of renewed hope and dreams!

As you may imagine, this December was bitter sweet for me. It was in fact the first December in my life that I did not share it with my mother here on earth, though I know I shared it with her in mind and spirit!

I am motivated and encouraged with the possibilities of the new year. I'm starting the year with a new kitchen and brand-new truck! My God has blessed me with my beautiful wife who keeps me focused and on the straight and narrow. With a family that bathe me in love and appreciation.

As pain gives way to precious and loving memories, I'm ready to face whatever this new year, this new decade has to offer. I look forward to serving my community, my neighbor alongside my marine brothers and sisters.

See you in the new year!

Dream fearlessly, live boldly,

Semper Fi,

Hank Landrau, Chaplain,  
MCL Det. 801

**Jr. Vice Commandant's Comments on Membership**

**Hey Marines and Corpsmen!!!!**

**Pay Attention..this is IMPORTANT**

# **Dues**

**MOST** of you have NOT paid your 2020 dues. Please bring \$35 cash or your credit card to our next meeting or click **DUES** to pay on-line. Why not consider extending your membership as a **LIFE** member? Here are the Life Membership Fees:

65 years and over	\$200
51 to 64 years	\$300
36 to 50 years	\$400
35 and younger	\$500

You can pay for a Life membership by clicking here **DUES**.

Now we need all our regular members to pay their FY2020 dues! There will be a list at the meeting check-in table showing everyone who has not paid their dues this year. If you see your name on that list, PLEASE PAY UP! You can pay your dues with a credit card. Ask the Sergeant-at-Arms. Everyone who is not a Life member MUST pay their dues by August 31st each year.

The easiest way to pay your dues is to either mail us a check for \$35 to:

Lake County Det 801 Marine Corps League  
P.O. Box 7732, Gurnee IL 60031

or

Put your mouse cursor on the word **DUES**, click and use your credit card.

**CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL, FHCC VISITS**



Many thanks to the VA Hospital Visitation Team

**VA HOSPITAL VISITATION TEAM**

There will be NO HOSPITAL VISITS these past two weeks due to the holidays. We visited the Hospital on Thursday and handed out candy and calendars along with other items to the veterans. There were about 32 patients seen at that time. Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

For more information at my home number (847) 599 9466 or my cell number (847) 212 5454.

Greg Cummings



# COLOR & HONOR GUARD



12/13

Hoops for Heroes--  
Stevenson High School

Jim Sroka was the Honorary Captain and they read his Bronze Star write up.  
Everyone in the audience stood and applauded. The "Big Guy" was speechless.

We Presented Colors

Castillo --- USMC  
Roth --- POW/MIA  
Butler --- US  
Mampe --- Right Rifle  
Pedrin --- Left Rifle  
Seyler --- Sword

We NEED new Members. Please see any Member of the Color Guard.

Al Seyler

Commander



# EAGLE SCOUTS



**We continue to look for new members for our presentation team.**

**Here are some future presentations.**

- Jan 4 Giorgio M. Laudati, Troop 78, 1:00 PM, Community Christian Church 1970 Riverwoods Rd., Lincolnshire (Ellingsen)
- Jan 4 Jesse J. Escutia and Nicolas D. Strack, Troop 66, 1:00 PM, Our Lady of the Humility Church 10655 W. Wadsworth Rd., Beach Park (Seyler)
- Jan 11 Alexander James Eilert, Troop 198, 3:00 PM, St. Andrews Lutheran Church 10 S. Lake St. Mundelein., (Landrau)
- Jan 18 Thomas Szandor Levin and Brian W. Bouxsein, Troop 73, 1:00 PM, Shepherd of the Lakes Church 285 E. Washington St. Grayslake. (Carle)
- Jan 18 Connor J. Rada, Troop 679, 1:30 PM, St Bebe Church 36455 N. Wilson Rd., Ingleside (Ellingsen)
- Jan 19 Isaac G. Koob, Troop 671, 2:00 PM, Shepherd of the Lakes Church 285 E. Washington St. Grayslake (Ellingsen)
- Jan 26 Gabriel John Kobza, Zachary George Biela, Troop 48, 12:30 PM, American Legion Post 264 801 N. McKinley Rd. Lake Forest (Ellingsen)



## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801



and

then

**“SMED”**

said ....

### Mexican Sliders

Hey! Good to see ya agin'. Sit a spell and visit if ya have the time. Have a chair, and grab a mug of hot java. The sweetener and whitener are over there, by the pot.

Been thinkin' about somethin' way off the usual subject this month, and would like to share it with ya.

The last time my favorite “senorita” fixed tacos for dinner, she had a lot of the taco meat left over. Tacos, by the way, are one of my favorite things for supper, or lunch, or.....?

Anyway, we had this taco meat in the fridge, and I was thinkin' about how best to use it, when I had a thought, Mexican Sliders!

Heat the taco meat in the microwave for 30 seconds (twice). For some reason, if ya heat for one minute, it will explode all over the inside of the oven! Fold a paper towel in half to place over the meat in the oven just in case it splatters, or you will have a mess to clean up.

Depending on yer preferences, ya take a bag of Fritos Party Size Corn Scoops, or Tostitos Scoops. Place a mini-spoon of the taco meat on each scoop (about twenty five scoops will fit on a dinner plate).

Add two drops of McIlhenny Tabasco Sauce to each chip, add a dollop of yer favorite salsa, top it off with a dab of sour cream, and 'Oh, Man!' what a taste.

Guaranteed to clear yer sinuses and forget about the cold weather outside. Ya can even add a pinch of finely cut chives, if ya have some.

Is one of my favorite lunches. About two dinner plate sized helpings will carry ya all the way to supper.

Don't forget to wash it all down with a Negra Modelo or another favorite beverage, and you will enjoy a wonderful afternoon. Easiest meal ever to clean up, just rinse off.

Go ahead and try it. If you don't like it, give me a call and I will come 'dispose' of it for ya.

Thanks for the visit. Hope ta see ya agin' next month?.

Felice Navidad, Amigos!

Semper Fidelis!

“SMEDLEY”

(847/648-6859)

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**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, Richard Butler, Ed Mampe, Warren Blacklock, Col. Jim Swab and Joe Wallace.

We have started planning the "Boat Load of Booze" raffle. We do this fund raiser every other year and it will start in January. The prize winners will be drawn June 15<sup>th</sup> at Steven's restaurant at our meeting. Raffle Tickets have been printed by Biler Press at no charge.

Already people are asking to buy tickets so. We are Ready to SELL them!! Also we need to start collecting Booze.

Raffle tickets make good gifts, stocking stuffers etc. Last raffle we had Art Castillo's daughter won, also Joe Pudlo, Ken Parrish and Leo Mordini won bottles of Booze. I have the books of tickets - 12 tickets to a book.

**3 for \$25 or \$10 a piece.**

Al Seyler

President  
847-220-1525

***Related Military Links***

**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**