

THE **JARHEAD** JOURNAL

Jerry Pedrin, Commandant (Commandant@lakecountymarines.com)

www.lakecountymarines.com

NEXT MEETING at STEVENS

Our next business meeting will be on Tuesday, September 22nd. Why Tuesday, because Steven's is closed on Mondays during the pandemic. Plan on attending our meetings on Tuesday following the 3rd Monday for a while.

DETACHMENT 801 OFFICER ELECTIONS BEING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Nominations will close prior to the election on 9/22. Here is the slate so far:

Commandant: Ed Mampe
Seinor Vice: Tom Koncan
Junior Vice: open
Adjutant: John Jezioro
Paymaster: Mel Ellingsen
Judge Advocate: Peter Karlovics

FOUNDATION BOARD ELECTIONS BEING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Nominations will close prior to the election on 9/22. Here is the slate so far:

Al Seyler	President
Jerry Pedrin	Secretary
Mel Ellingsen	Treasurer
Warren Blacklock	Board Member
Richard Butler	Board Member
Ed Mampe	Board Member
Jim Sroka	Board Member
Col. Jim Swab	Board Member
Joe Wallace	Board Member

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

The Jarhead Journal Published Monthly

Editor: Mel Ellingsen

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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 scheduled for
September 22nd-Tuesday!

Steven's Restaurant

Starts at 1900-7:00 PM
Join us for fellowship early.

Last Month's Mystery Marine was
Greg Cummings



Where Stuff Is

1. June Meeting Pictures
2. This Index
3. Commandant's Chat
4. Chaplain's Corner
5. Staff Meeting Summary
6. Please Pay Your Dues
7. Honor and Color Guard
8. Eagle Scouts and VA Hospital Visits
9. SMED Said.
10. And SMED Said (continued)
11. Foundation
12. Related Military Links



Who is this Mystery Marine?

COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS

Once again I sit before the computer to compose an article for the Jarhead Journal. It seems as if there is not a whole lot of good to say in these days but I will try to find something that we can all reflect on this month.

It seems like the Country was getting better for a while with the Covid 19 mess with most of the States having a low ratio of testing to actual positive cases but during the past couple months things have gotten worse. Ever since the States relaxed their restrictions a little, people have gone crazy and the rate has sky rocketed again.

It is a shame that places like the City of Chicago has to resort to placing States on a quarantine list because that State has had such a rise in their new cases being reported. People just seem to be trying to get infected. I am not sure if it is just the fact that this problem has gone on so long and the people are tired of being cooped up, or they just don't believe they will catch the disease. Either way, we have a real problem on our hands and it appears it will be around for some time to come.

While it is true that for about 99% of the people who get the virus survive, that is not the case for a lot of people over the age of 65. We are in that group where most of us have underlying medical conditions where we can't afford to get any other medical problems. We are the group that can least afford to catch this virus.

We have tried several things to lessen our contact so as to lessen the chance that we will spread, and/or get, the virus. We have not done any fundraising this year and it appears we will not be able to do any for the rest of the year. We have not been out selling our Boat Load of Booze Raffle tickets. We have decided to hold the drawing in November so we need to get out and get some tickets sold. We have about \$6,000 in sales thus far. I am asking each of you to get some tickets and sell them to friends and family that you are seeing. I know we may not be able to make our projected goal of \$15,000 but we will probably not have any other chances to earn money this year.

We are finally having our meetings at Stevens Restaurant (next on Tuesday, September 22) but the meeting last month had less than 20 people show up. We are taking nominations for and electing our Commandant and the rest of the staff at the September meeting. We would like to see as many of our members as possible at the meeting.

We know that a lot of you have been buying masks, hand sanitizer, and other sanitizing items to prevent you from contacting any viruses. If you need help obtaining of these items, let us know. We will do our best to assist you with them. We are aware that this has been an additional burden on all of us and some of you may need some help.

It is my hope that all of you are feeling well and that you will continue to be that way in the future. If there is anything that I, or the staff, can do for you just give any of us a call. We are here to assist you in any way we can. I look forward to seeing all of you in the near future as circumstances permit. I hope and pray all of you stay safe and healthy until we meet again.

Jerry Pedrin, Commandant - 847-687-6663

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

AUGUST 2020

I pray that as you read these words, you and your family are well and safe!

The month of August of the year 2020 is now in the history books. I thank my Lord and Savior for the privilege of living through it. For the privilege of witnessing our history unfold.

Someone wiser than I, once said and I paraphrase, "if we don't learn from history, we'll tend to repeat it."

Many Americans have chosen to wear the uniforms of our armed forces and first responders, not only to protect **our** liberty and freedom and keep us safe, but to fight tyranny and injustice around the world. Many Americans have "made the ultimate sacrifice" in pursuit of those goals, many still bear the scars, visible and invisible, of that commitment.

We all know that protecting our way of life, our freedoms, our constitution, is not an easy task by any means!

We must remain vigilant for signs of abuse. When those abuses occur, our constitution and laws guide us in their resolution.

We've witnessed the results when individuals abuse their authority, and when we respond outside the means provided by law. Nobody wins!

My prayer for our country and society is that we first go to our God for guidance before we undertake any action.

As I've said many times in these writings, America is the light of the world, let's not let the light go out during our watch!

Each and every one of us has a personal responsibility in ensuring the protection our freedoms, and rights. We must hold individuals responsible for injustices accountable, without injuring the innocent.

We must not look the "other way", that's how history repeats itself!

We live in a great nation with, decent and law-abiding people. Where diversity of opinion is welcomed and protected by law. As a nation we fought hard to secure those rights. The world flocks to our shores because we guarantee those rights.

Let's show the world how America leads. Let's show the world that though we come from many backgrounds, we are one people, AMERICANS.

I know that our God has blessed this country and its people and therefore we have a great future. Let's remember to put our God first in everything we do. He loves us.

God bless you and stay safe. Semper Fi Hank Landrau, Chaplain, Det. 801

Quick Summary of September 7th Staff Meeting

- 1) During the pandemic, Steven's will be closed on Mondays. It is recommended that we meet on Tuesday, the day after the 3rd Monday. So why not the 3rd Tuesday? If we did, the meeting comes too soon in the month for the staff to 'do their thing'. Next meeting is 9/22 at 1900.
- 2) With the officer elections in September, we hold their installation on October 20th. Steven's still has a State Covid rule limiting out attendance to 50 people. It has been recommended that we delay our Officer Installation Dinner (not the installation) until next year when we can celebrate with spouses and guest safely.
- 4) The Boat Load of Booze drawing will be held during our November meeting on the 17th. Please sell more tickets.
- 5) Toys for Tots - TBD.
- 6) 245th United States Marine Corps Birthday celebration - TBD.

Jr. Vice Commandant's Comments on Membership

Hey Marines and Corpsmen!!!!

Pay Attention..this is IMPORTANT

Dues

We have dropped all members who have not paid their 9/1/2018 dues. There are a handful of you that did not pay your 9/1/2019 dues. If you do not pay those dues soon, both National and our detachment will be dropping you come September 1st.

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**.

You can pay your 9/1/2020 dues **NOW**.

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.



COLOR & HONOR GUARD





EAGLE SCOUTS



Following all Scouting and State rules, we presented six Ka-Bars in July and six in August. One more is scheduled for September.

CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FHCC VISITS



We have not been able to visit anyone at the North Chicago VA since Covid-19 rules were imposed.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801



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and

then

“SMED”

said

Well c'mon in. So good to see ya again. Hope you have stayed healthy since we last visited. Grab a cup-o-Joe and have a seat.

You know, I have long heard the strongest human emotion is self-preservation, however from many earlier years of interacting with customers nationwide, I believe the strongest emotion is that of being resistant to change. Come to think of it, maybe they are one and the same.

Several years ago, the 'missus' and I realized winter was no longer fun. We had stopped downhill and cross country skiing, I no longer snowshoed or ice skated, and even going out to use the snow thrower was not enjoyable, I actually hurt.

Being long time 'outdoor individuals', we decided it was time to look around for another, more enjoyable, way to spend winter. After much research, my bride discovered a condo unit, on the beach in the Tampa, Florida area available for the month of January 2019, and we signed. Expecting warmer weather (after all it was Florida), we packed summer clothes and froze out 'tutu's'. Most of our stay was in the 40's and 50's, but was more enjoyable than if we had stayed in Illinois.

We enjoyed the location and the facilities well enough that we signed up for six weeks the following season (2020). Again, the stay was most enjoyable with walks along the beach nearly every day and local sightseeing. When we contacted the owner to sign a lease for two months in 2021, we were informed of a HUGE price increase due to the Super Bowl scheduled in January 2021. We decided to check out other locations only to find generally the same conditions, either huge price increases, or, minimum three to four month stays. It was time to change the 'game plan'.

For what the rentals were projected to be, we determined those figures would go quite a long way toward making an annual mortgage payment, so we began checking out locations. After several weeks, we found a home in the Land-O-Lakes area that was almost move in ready. With only several days remaining of our winter stay, we signed and packed for the return to Illinois.

Upon arriving home, the Nation went into virtual lock-down due to the COVID19 and we finalized the transaction by mail on March 30th, 2020.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

During May of this year we decided to check on the house which had stood vacant since January, and we had not seen since February. We packed the car with what we thought would be the essentials and headed for Florida for the month. It was necessary to purchase a refrigerator, bedding, and window treatments after explaining to neighbors the house really was owned by someone. For two weeks we slept on the floor using 'back packer' foam mats, and lived out of an ice chest requiring a daily run for ice cubes. Due to the COVID19 shutdown, products we needed were not available. Our furniture consisted of folding wood patio chairs and bag chairs that could be packed in the car. We had not 'camped out' like this since our early married years. She is such a good sport! Once things were deemed 'livable' we returned to Illinois to ready our existing home for sale. (Yes, after eighty one years, I am leaving my 'home state' for whatever awaits during this next chapter). Am I nervous? No! But I am going to miss everything experienced during my long stay here. We have many friends and relatives still in the area, as well as organization memberships and will be returning to the area particularly during the summer months for catching up on those long standing relationships.

When this will all happen is anybody's guess. We have fifty plus years of accumulated 'stuff' to deal with before moving. The new place is half the size of what we live in now, so not everything is heading south.

The Lake County Marine Corps League Detachment #801 has been near and dear to me for the last seven years, and I wish to continue as a member. I may visit former #801 member Shawn Piccolo, and her Detachment in Lutz, Florida, but my heart, and membership belongs to Lake County.

Appreciate your stopping for a visit. Thought it was time for me to share this with you. We have had some absolutely wonderful times together, and I trust they will continue, but realize they will be fewer in number on an annual basis in the future.

Stay safe! Stay well! God bless! Hope to see you again, soon!

Semper Fidelis Marines and other Members of #801!
(The Best Damned Detachment in The Nation)

This is not goodbye! I will continue to keep in touch!
Richard 'Smedley' Butler

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

Lake County Detachment Marine Corps League Foundation, Inc

Officers and Directors

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

Directors

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

There are no new requests for aid or help at the present time.

The "Boat Load of Booze" raffle has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 17th, during our November MCL Detachment meeting.

Al Seyler
Foundation 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