

THE **JARHEAD** JOURNAL

Ed Mampe, Commandant (Commandant@lakecountymarines.com)

www.lakecountymarines.com

1ST PLACE

BEST IRISH OUTFIT

MARCH 16, 2021

Aye Lad. Ya be a winner.

Sure and begorn the Staff of the fine establishment, Steven's, thinks ye had the finest outfit they ever laid their eyes upon and said you won First prize.

Well now, first prize was a bottle of fine Irish drippings—but since ye not be partaking of the spirits, we had to find a substitute prize. (I had to dispose of the old prize me self).

Now then, we have a new prize made specially for you by an Old Leprechaun in a hollow tree over a peat fire.

CONGRADULATIONS



John Jezioro wins
Two loaves of Soda Bread!!



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

The Jarhead Journal Published Monthly

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Detachment Officers

Commandant:	Ed Mampe
Senior Vice-Commandant:	Tom Koncan
Junior Vice-Commandant:	Walter Roth
Judge Advocate:	Peter Karlovics
Paymaster:	Mel Ellingsen
Adjutant:	John Jezioro
Sgt. at Arms:	Larry Lingen
Junior Past Commandant	Jerry Pedrin
Chaplain:	Hank Landrau
Asst. Chaplin	MGSgt. Wayne Carle
Quartermaster:	David Pedrin
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen

Where Stuff Is

1. **Last Meeting**
2. Where Stuff Is.
3. Commandant's Chat
4. Chaplain's Corner
5. Honor and Color Guard
6. VA Hospital Visits
7. Eagle Scouts
8. Memorial Day Cook Out
9. More Memorial Day Cook Out
10. Honorees
11. YM Gets Scholarship
12. Opening Day Honors Veteran
13. Foundation
14. Related Military Links

Our next meeting is scheduled for

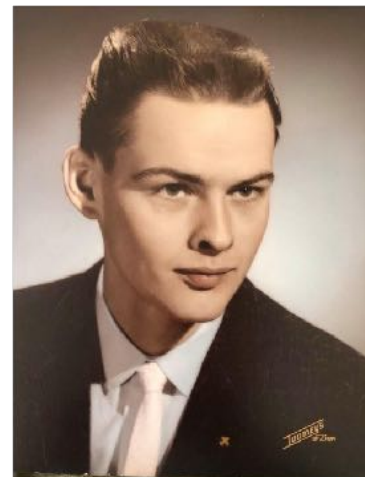
18 May (Tuesday)

1900 (7:00 PM)

Steven's Restaurant

Last Month's Mystery Marine was

Ray DeGroot



Who is this Mystery Marine-Poolee
awaiting boot camp?

COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS

Marines here I am in my bunker once again, it is sunny outside, and I am inside staring at this one-eyed monster called a computer. There is gun fire to the north of me but luckily it is out going, just people practicing at the nearby gun club.

I hope this finds everyone healthy and starting to enjoy the outdoors. Weather is starting to cooperate for us.

A little bit of Marine history. April 17th 1961 Marines stationed at Guantanamo Bay Cuba, go on high alert during the Bay of Pigs operation.

Now something from my (To Err is Human, To Forgive, Divine) HOWEVER Neither is Marine Corps POLICY.

Monkey Business

The San Diego Zoo had acquired a very rare species of gorilla. Within a few weeks, the female gorilla became very cranky and difficult to handle. Upon examination, the zoo veterinarian determined the problem. The gorilla was in heat, and to make matters worse, there were no male gorillas available.

While reflecting on the problem the zoo administrators noticed young Sam, the employee responsible for cleaning the animals' cages. Sam had recently gotten out of the navy and had spent a great deal of time at sea-so the zoo administrators thought they might have a solution.

Sam was approached with a proposition. Would he be willing to have sex with the gorilla for five hundred dollars?

Sam showed some interest but said he would think the matter over carefully... and the following day announced that he would accept their offer-but only under three conditions.

"First," he said "I don't want to have to kiss her.

Secondly, I want nothing to do with any offspring that may result from this union."

The zoo administration quickly agreed to these conditions and asked about the third.

"Well," said Sam, "you have to give me another week to come up with the five hundred dollars!" Enjoy, Commandant Ed Mampe 847-641-9689

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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APRIL, 2021

As we continue to transition from winter to spring to summer, many of us are dusting off our summer wardrobe, tee shirts, shorts, sandals etc., while others are planning an entirely new wardrobe, either way, the change is welcomed!

We would be wise to also think about our "inner" appearance as well. Our spiritual being, often more so than our outer appearance, needs to be "over hauled". We need to go to our father in heaven, confess our sins, and pray for forgiveness and guidance. We must repent, and chart a new course. What better time to start than during the "season of renewal"! As we see new life bursting and blooming around lets follow nature's example and bring joy and renewal into our lives and the lives of those around us.

We don't need reminders of how challenging the last year has been. But with the help of our merciful God, we will learn from these lessons and build a brighter future. We must instill in our children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren that adversity may slow us down a bit, but it will not and cannot stop us!

In the process not only will we have stronger families, but a stronger, more resilient country.

It all starts with us and our willingness to stay rooted in our God, taking action without fear, and remaining positive!

So, as we look around, and enjoy nature, lets also create an environment where we can enjoy the fruits of our labor.

Semper Fi

Hank Landrau, Chaplain



COLOR & HONOR GUARD

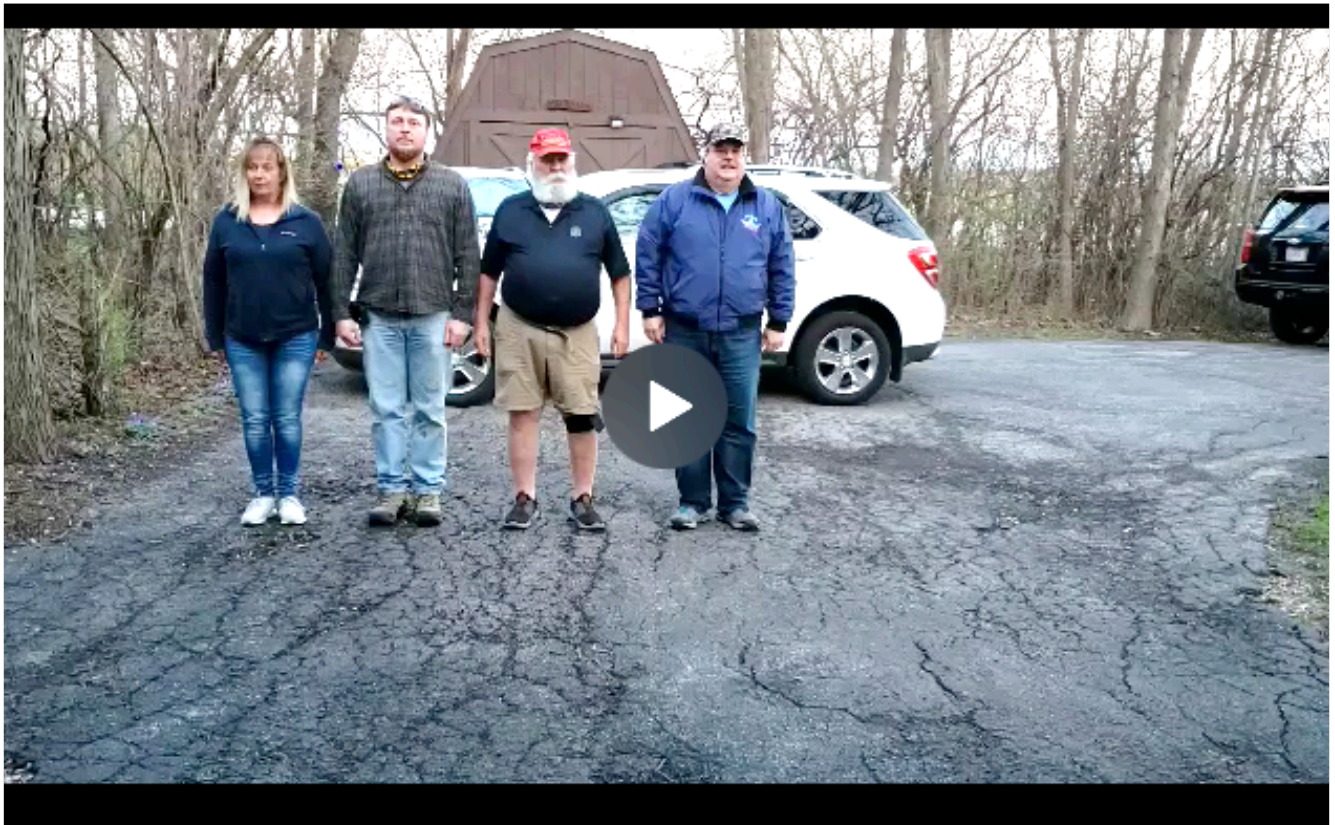


COLOR GUARD

Practice continues at my house. With the weather getting better we hope to start practicing outside at the Warren center and going to St. Steven's cathedral afterward for Choir practice. Click on the video link below to see how a Counter March is executed!

Al Seyler - Commander

[Click HERE to view the video.](#)



CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FHCC VISITS



Here is Don Bahe, Nada Sydow and Greg Cummings at Veterans Closet handing out food.

Hello fellow Marine Corps League members. Hospital visits are still a no go. Veterans closet is still giving food and clothing away to those in need.

Greg Cummings

Midwest Veterans Closet
Where Veterans shop free

Armed Forces Day Groceries

A volunteer wearing protective gear will place the groceries in your vehicle.

NEED GROCERIES?

If you don't have enough to eat, Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry can help.

Midwest Veterans Closet's Mobile Pantry provides nutritious and budget-friendly meals. There's time to register or check out the details at veteranscloset.org. Pantry is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last.

Due to COVID-19, Midwest Pantry also distributes meals to a convenience store for pickup with pre-packed boxes of groceries.

Friday
May 14, 2021
12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

Midwest Veterans Closet
2323 Green Bay Road
North Chicago, IL
847.354.2108

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To all who serve and have served
We are Grateful

ARMY AIR FORCE NAVY MARINE CORPS COAST GUARD



EAGLE SCOUTS



I presented a Ka-Bar and certificate in mid-April (above) to this Eagle Scout at a mid-week troop meeting. Since then, our detachment has been asked to present thirty Ka-Bars to both male and female Eagle Scouts. As of this publication, Covid-19 guidelines remain in place and we have been asked not to send anyone other than the presenter to the Eagle Court of Honor. Hopefully, those restrictions will open up and we can allow detachment members to attend.

Mel Ellingsen - Eagle Scout Chair - 847-274-8144

2nd ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY COOK OUT

We held our inaugural Memorial Day and Spring cook out/pot luck in May of 2019. Covid – 19 wiped out 2020. 2021 is here and we will resume the Activities and Events that make Det. 801 “the Best Damn Detachment in the League”.

MAY 26, 2021

(Rain date the following week)

WEDNESDAY AT 11:00AM

Al Seyler's Home

14034 Deer Creek Road

Wadsworth IL 60083

Our Honor Guard has performed at many funerals, standing casket guard, rendering a final salute, folding and presenting the flag, firing a volley and playing taps. We feel it is a Duty to send a Brother or Sister Marine off to "guard the streets of heaven" with full military Honors.

We should also remember and Honor those Marines that started and built Det. 801. Those Marines that nurtured and mentored many of us. Never forget those who have gone before us.

We will have a Memorial Program consisting of reading the past Member's name and striking the Bell followed by a Rifle Volley and the playing of Taps.

Celebration of spring and the new year will then begin.

We will grill up some Burgers and hot dogs. We are asking for volunteers to sign up and bring a dish to share. Look for updated email to follow shortly. We will have sodas, water, beer, and coffee to drink.

We will have door prizes. Roast marshmallows on the fire.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

We are inviting all of our Members and their spouses, relatives of our deceased Members, and any Veteran, Active Duty or Reserve Marine to join us in this Remembrance and Celebration. We will have a sign-up sheet so we can get a count of people planning to attend. We want 100% attendance at this event.

We will need your help in making this event a success. Volunteers are needed for equipment set-up and take down, cooking, food service, "valet" parking for our disabled, clean-up and other tasks as they become identified. Sign-up sheets for you to volunteer to help will be at the April regular meeting and will be sent out via email.

We will keep you informed as we move forward implementing our plans.

We can make this happen!

We are MARINES !!

Al Seyler Program Chairman 847-220-1525



Couple of Images from our 2019 Memorial Day Cook Out!

Both Jim Sroka and Al Seyler were honored recently at Jesse Oaks - Bella Cain Band. They also read the following about Jim:

James Sroka

A true American hero.

January 27th, 1968, Jim was a member of 3rd Battalion 4th Marines (The Thundering Third) carrying a M-79 Grenade launcher. His platoon took up a position on Mike's Hill.

At 5:00 am a reinforced NVA battalion of about 700 attacked. Surrounded and outnumbered 5 to 1, for the next 12 hours the Marines fought back. Jim moved down the hill and fired until he ran out of grenades. He then picked up a rifle and continued fighting. He ran delivering fresh ammo and encouraging his fellow Marines.

The Marines paid dearly with 21 killed and 62 wounded. 131 dead NVA were found.

Jim was awarded the Bronze Star with V for Valor.

Between January 27, 1968 & June 15, 1968 (4 ½ months), Jim was awarded the Bronze Star and 3 Purple Hearts suffering injuries each time ranging from a concussion to shrapnel wounds to his body and extremities and a gun shot wound to his right arm.



Nina Staben Awarded NROTC Scholarship

Nina Staben, from Lake County Young Marines received the Frederick C. Branch Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Scholarship in the amount of \$180,000 for a 4 year degree at Xavier University. And yes, she plays on the Warren High School varsity football team!

Thousands of applicants submit for this scholarship nationwide and only a select few earn the privilege to go to college and train as a future Marine Corps Officer. **Oorah!!!**

Associate member Lori Staben's daughter Nina has been part of the Young Marine program since she was 9 years old and was promoted last year to the rank of YM Sgt Maj.



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

At every game the Cubs honor a Veteran, and for this year's home opener, the Honoree was Jim Sroka – Viet Nam Vet with the Bronze Star with the V for Valor and 3 Purple Hearts. Well Deserved.

Sgt. Sroka (I was not allowed to call him Jim) and two of his grand kids plus me, the L/Cpl. driver of his personal staff car, made it to Wrigley field for the game. The Cubs provided us with great seats, 8th row from the field by 3rd base. The price on the tickets was \$282 per ticket. It was a cold and windy day but our seats were in the sun and the wind was blocked. At the Middle of the 4th inning Sgt. Sroka stood and was introduced to the crowd with him being televised up on the BIG BOARD in left field. He received a super round of applause and from that time on everyone wanted to buy us a beer. Start of the 5th inning, the Cubs are losing, the sun leaves us, it's too cold to drink beer, the kids are hungry, a cup of hot chocolate cost \$7.00-----
We left -- Took the kids to McDonalds.

[Click HERE to view the video made by videographer Al Seyler.](#)



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.

Grayslake High School; again this year, is conducting a collection drive to make Care packages to be send to deployed Marines. We have helped them the last several years and proposed to give \$500.00 again this year. The Board voted unanimously to approve. Treasurer Mel Ellingsen prepared the check.

A Board Meeting was held at Roadhouse 41 on April 15th. (The Roadhouse donated 37 bottles of Booze to our raffle.) In attendance were Mampe, Ellingsen, Sroka, Swab, and Seyler with Smedley Butler on Duo remotely. Ed Mampe took the minutes in Jerry Pedrin's absence.

Decision was made unanimously to switch our checking account from Chase bank to Baxter Credit Union. The account will pay interest currently at .025%. We also approved buying a "No-penalty" CD paying .060%.

There are no requests for assistance at this time.

Al Seyler
President
Lake County Marines Foundation

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