

# THE JARHEAD JOURNAL

Ed Mampe, Commandant ([Commandant@lakecountymarines.com](mailto:Commandant@lakecountymarines.com))

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

Some pics of those who enjoyed our St Patrick's Day Meeting and Dinner!



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801**



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### The Jarhead Journal Published Monthly

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Junior Past Commandant	Jerry Pedrin
Chaplain:	Hank Landrau
Asst. Chaplin	MGSgt. Wayne Carle
Quartermaster:	David Pedrin
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen

Our next meeting is scheduled for

20 April (Tuesday)

1900 (7:00 PM)

Steven's Restaurant

Last Month's Mystery Marine was

John Jezioro



#### Where Stuff Is

1. St Patrick's Day Meeting
2. More St Patrick's
3. More St Patricks'
4. Where Stuff Is.
5. Commandant's Chat
6. Ramblings from the Jr. Vice
7. Chaplain's Corner
8. Honor and Color Guard
9. VA Hospital Visits
10. Memorial Day Cook Out
11. More Memorial Day Cook Out
12. Smed Said
13. Smed (continued)
14. Foundation
15. Related Military Links

Who is this Mystery Marine?

**COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS**

Well Marines, here I sit in my bunker staring at the computer trying to think of things that have happened this month. We had our St. Paddy's day dinner and we had 38 members and spouses there. I was hoping to see a few more, but under the circumstances I was glad to see that many.

Now that we are into spring, we can be outside more doing things we like to do. I hope everyone has had an opportunity to get their COVID-19 vaccination.

A little bit of history, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1918—2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, becomes the first Marine unit to occupy positions on the front lines in France.

Now a little laugh from To Err is Human, To Forgive Divine However, Neither is Marine Corps  
POLICY

**MORAL OF THE STORY**

A teacher gave her fifth grade class an assignment to get their parents to tell them a story with a moral at the end of it. The next day the kids came back and one by one began to tell their stories.

Kathy said, "My father is a farmer and we have a lot of egg-laying hens. One time we were taking our eggs to market in a basket on the front seat of the pickup when we hit a bump in the road and all the eggs went flying and broke and made a mess."

"And what is the moral if the story?" asked the teacher.

"Don't put all your eggs in one basket!"

Very good," said the teacher. "Now, Lucy?" "In our family we are farmers too. But we raise chickens for the meat market. We had a dozen eggs one time, but when they hatched we only got ten live chicks. And the moral to this story is, "don't count your chickens until they hatch."

"That was a fine story Lucy. Johnny, do you have a story to share?"

Yes, ma'am, my daddy told me this story about my Uncle Bill. Uncle Bill was a Marine fighter pilot in Desert Storm, and when his plane got hit, he had to bail out over enemy territory. All he had on him was a bottle of whiskey, a machine gun and a machete. He drank the whiskey on the way down so the bottle wouldn't break, and then he landed right in the middle of one hundred enemy troops. He killed seventy of them with his machine gun until he ran out of bullets, then he killed twenty more with the machete till that broke, and then he killed last ten with his bare hands."

"Good heavens," said the horrified teacher, "What kind of moral is there to THAT horrible story?"

"Don't screw with Uncle Bill when he's been drinking!"

S/F

Ed Mampe, Commandant (847) 641-9689

## **Jr. Vice Commandant's Ramblings**

Marines --- You have two things to do before you forget (AGAIN)!!

**NUMBER ONE:** getting your vaccine shot is not a good idea! It is **imperative!** So contact your personal physician or the V A to make an appointment to get your vaccine shot. If not for your good, then for mine and everyone with whom you come into contact.

SEMPER FI my friends. GET'ER Done.

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**NUMBER TWO:** Respond to the Survey sent out last month. Everyone is working at making our detachment the best it can be. You should contribute your ideas as to how to make that happen.

At the each staff meeting we discuss a number of issues including upcoming and new activities. So if there is something you think we should be doing let us know (I would be pleased to be your suggestion box carrier).

And If you know someone looking for a place to meet new friends, you can help to make MCL 801 be the place. So contact me with your ideas, your opinions, your thoughts, and your dues.

(847-875-9669 or [wroth0730@gmail.com](mailto:wroth0730@gmail.com))

**OK – So I lied. Here is NUMBER THREE:**

### **MONTHLY (p.i.t.a.) ADVERTISEMENT**

The way to stop these annoying Ads is to pay your dues. One of the responsibilities of the Jr. Vice is Recruitment and Retention of Membership. In order to accomplish this, everyone needs to participate:

- Pay your annual dues or become a Life Member (we can offer a payment plan for those interested.) Click here to pay your dues: <https://lakecountymarines.com/pay-your-dues-here>

- Mentoring -- Need those who can be mentors, and those who would like to have a mentor?

- Recruit – new members : and, Retention -- Reach out to members who should be coming to events.

If you know someone looking for a place to meet new friends, you can help to make this be the place. So contact me with your ideas, your opinions, your thoughts, and your dues.

Walter Roth

(847-875-9669 or [wroth0730@gmail.com](mailto:wroth0730@gmail.com)) SFMF

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Spring has spring!

After a year of restrictions and living extra cautiously, we can look forward to some loosening up of those restrictions.

Hopefully, some of us have taken my suggestions from my February article and begun planning our spring and summer activities! As Illinois, and the rest of the country open up, more and more places and activities become available. If health and physical conditions allow, get out and see our beautiful country. At the very least, we can reacquaint ourselves with our neighborhoods.

Spring is a time of "renewal". As trees and flowers bloom, so should our spirits! As nature rebounds, so should our minds. Learning new things, doing new things, experiencing new things will make our spirits soar! We have a choice, we can let "life" beat us up, or we can take it by the horns, and with God's help, enjoy every second of it. IT'S OUR CHOICE!

Let's choose to live on our terms. We may not have control over **every** aspect of our lives, but we can choose how we deal with what life throws at us.

The game plan is simple, we first go to our Heavenly Father in prayer, and ask for guidance. We go to HIM, in good times and bad. We go to HIM in faith and humbleness, and we listen to what HE puts in our hearts and accept it with gratitude and thankfulness.

We can be assured that HIS love, grace and mercy will guide us. Trust in HIM!  
Now that the game plan is in place, let's move. Let's do things with confidence and purpose.

It doesn't matter whether you plan to hit the road, write a novel, play the guitar, or learn to fly. Whatever you decide, enjoy and share it.

Some of us like to engage in ministry. Visiting the sick (if possible), the shut in, helping others with home/auto repairs, and fundraising to name a few.  
There are so many areas where our skills, knowledge and know how are sorely needed!

We can be a blessing to so many, not just our fellow warriors, but in our communities, to all the children of GOD. By doing so, not only do we help them, but we help ourselves through the satisfaction it provides.

So, continue to dream fearlessly, and live boldly!

SEMPER FI.

Hank Landrau,  
Chaplain, Det. 801



## COLOR & HONOR GUARD



## COLOR GUARD

I contacted the Cubs and inquired about their plans for presenting Colors at Wrigley field this year. The Chicago Mayor will allow 20% occupancy at the games. With many season ticket holders upset over not being able to use their tickets, the Cubs have canceled Colors and the giving of 4 free seats. I understand their problem. We were scheduled to be there for the home opener. RATS!!

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

Practice continues every Monday evening at my house. My bride always puts out some "goodies" for everyone after practice to enjoy with our coffee, soda or beer. Well, ----- after seeing us practice several times, she served Ding Dongs and Twinkies. Next time we expect Fruit Cake.

Join us ----We need help!!

Al Seyler  
Commander  
847-220-1525

# 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

**FREE groceries**

Volunteers wearing protective gear will place the groceries in your vehicle - while supplies last

**ARE YOU HUNGRY?**  
If you don't have enough to eat, Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry can help.  
Midwest Veterans Closet is a proud partner of Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry program. Food is free for low-income veterans in need. Please bring your ID to show to which is your food bank.

→ Food is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last.

**Midwest Food Bank**  
The national food-relief organization

**Friday  
April 16, 2021  
12 noon to 1:30 p.m.**

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

**Serving those who serve(d) us.  
Thank you for our freedoms.**

UNITED STATES ARMY  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD 1790

## **2nd ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY COOK OUT**

We held our inaugural Memorial Day and Spring cook out 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**

**WEDNESDAY AT 11:00AM**

**LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED**

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. 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!

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801



and

then

“SMED”

said ....

Well hello. So good to see ya agin’! So glad ya stopped by. Grab a cuppa ‘joe’ and a stool. Will tell ya ‘bout an interestin’ conversation happened just last week.

As you know by now, my bride and I spent the last several months here in the Sunny South tryin’ to avoid the ravages of “Ole Man Winter”.

This community of less than a thousand has a Veterans Club numberin’ about thirty members including all services except, I believe, the Coast Guard.

Last Saturday, after the meeting, a dozen of us were visitin’ over a cuppa coffee, and one of them remarked that he was, “so glad the Draft had been eliminated”. When I inquired as to why he felt that way, he responded with, back when he had served, “Services were required to take a number of young men that had been given a choice to either ‘join the service or go to jail’, and so many of them were undesirable choices for military duty”. He went on about how they did not fit in and were virtually “untrainable” and continued for quite some time on this subject.

I let him continue along this line until he ran out of steam and I replied, that I fully understood the reasons for his opinion, but I had a different view if he was willin’ to listen.

I did have to point out that if they had a choice of jail or the service, that was not the Draft, it was an Enlistment.

However, I stated my desire to see a re-enactment of the Draft because:

- A. Mommy was no longer there to make excuses for juniors’ transgressions,
- B. The recruit learned how to grow up and be self sufficient,
- C. The young soldier learned how to work efficiently with a team,
- D. He learned how to take and carry out orders,
- E. He learned how to complete a given assignment,
- F. He learned how to take responsibility assigned to him,
- G. He learned to respect others, as well as himself,
- H. He learned good grooming, personal hygiene and attention to dress.
- I. He learned the importance of being physically and mentally prepared,

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

Most important, the items just listed were the attributes needed to successfully get on with his life in the civilian world once his 'hitch' was over.

These are the youngsters that should be running our country in the next dozen years. Would you rather have ones leading with the attributes listed above instead of some I have seen still living in mommy and daddies' basement playing video games all night long?

I followed up with my idea the 'Draft' should be re-instated for all eighteen year olds' (male & female) as is done in Israel and Switzerland. He looked at me as though I had suddenly sprouted a third eye.

I asked him if he could tell me the last time there had been an invasion of Israel or Switzerland when every male and female (over eighteen) in those countries had military training and taken their service weapon home for storage ready to use if needed during a "National emergency".

At this time, it was my turn to drop my mouth in amazement as the gentleman next to me identified himself as a former Israeli soldier who immigrated here and then joined the U.S. Army, and, he agreed with me.

I am sure the Air Force Sergeants' mind wasn't changed, but we did have a very good and very lively discussion.

That is what I really like about this Veterans Club. We are all opinionated and none are particularly "PC", but after the main meeting we sit around and discuss anything and everything. It is nearly always a good exchange of opinions.

I believe there is just too little of that (exchanging opinions) and I think that is a shame. If I am unable to convince you of my point of view, perhaps you can convince me that yours is better.

We Need more of that interaction!  
And that is my opinion!

See ya next month? I sure hope so!

Stay well, Stay safe.

"SMED"

***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.

We learned that Veteran's Closet was sending some "care" packages to deployed Troops. The postal charges were to be \$24.00 per package. Veteran's Closet receives many donation of clothing, household goods and food but not much in the way of cash.

The Foundation voted, unanimously, to give \$500.00 to be used for mailing packages to the Troops.

We have not received any requests for assistance.

Al Seyler  
President

***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**