

THE JARHEAD JOURNAL

Charles Walgreen, Commandant (Commandant@lakecountymarines.com)

www.lakecountymarines.com



Many more pictures from our 247th USMC Birthday celebration can be viewed on our website at: <https://lakecountymarines.com/celebrations>

To the right is our Chaplain Joe Womack being presented the first piece of cake at the 2/24 247th USMC Birthday Ball.



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

The Jarhead Journal Published Monthly

Editor: Mel Ellingsen

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Detachment Officers

Commandant:	Charles Walgreen
Senior Vice-Commandant:	Hank Landrau
Junior Vice-Commandant:	Allan Perez
Judge Advocate:	Peter Karlovics
Paymaster:	Mel Ellingsen
Adjutant:	John Jezioro
Sgt. at Arms:	Patrick Fegan
Asst. Sgt. at Arms	Allan Perez
Junior Past Commandant	Ed Mampe
Chaplain:	Joe Womack
Asst. Chaplin	MGSgt. Wayne Carle
Quartermaster:	David Pedrin
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen

Our next meeting is scheduled for

20 December (Tuesday)

Start Time 1830

Steven's Restaurant

Last Month's Mystery Medal of Honor Recipient was Marine Sgt Maj John L. Canley.



Where Stuff Is

1. Officer Installation
2. Where Stuff Is
3. Commandant's Chat
4. Chaplain's Corner
5. Toys for Tots
6. Scuttlebutt from the Staff
7. Color Guard
8. Welcome Aboard
9. VA Hospital Visits
10. Eagle Scouts
11. Smedley Says.....
12. More Smedley Says..
13. Foundation
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Who is this Mystery Marine?

COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS

I AM A MARINE

NEVER GIVE UP! NEVER SURRENDER!

Giving Tuesday was founded ten years ago. It is the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. We Marines have given 24/7 for 247 years. Every day is a giving day for us Marines. All the sacrifices our brothers and sisters have given to protect our great country's freedom is selfless. The Marine Corps League is also generous in giving and donating to veterans and others in need ever since the League was founded 100 Years ago. We Marines continue to support our fellow Marines and their family members as we endure through the toughest situations, and we march through to a bright future of Freedom.

Our 247th Marine Corps Birthday was historic at the American Legion Post 771 Gurnee. Gunnery Sergeant Lee from MACG 48 brought his squad of Marines. We all had an epic time and sincerely appreciate all the work to ensure such a memorable Marine Corps Birthday.

Five days later was our detachment meeting which just happened to fall on our first Lake County Winter Advisory. We had the honor to swear in on the yellow footsteps Marine Thomas Martinez. He attended our Marine Corps Birthday and decided to join our detachment on the spot.

The following week was Thanksgiving Day and I am grateful to be a Marine and not a turkey.

Semper Fi

Charles Walgreen

Commandant

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

November 2022

It was great to see everyone at our 247th Birthday celebration and to observe the fellowship, es spirit de corps and camaraderie that exists with our 801 members. To those who were not able to attend---we missed you.

November is a time for reflection on all that the Lord has given us and to thank him for our health and the special time we are able to spend with families and friends.

Today we live in a very new, different and fragile world. May our leaders put their differences aside and work together for the common good of all mankind.

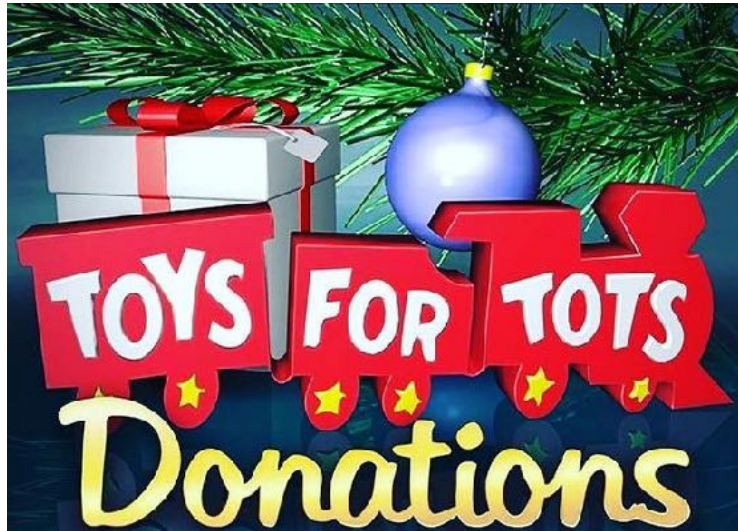
The joy of the Christmas season is right around the corner. Let us embrace it and make a commitment to improve ourselves both mentally and spiritually. Take a moment of your time to recognize someone in your sphere of life and express your gratitude. It will be returned one hundred-fold.

Lastly, remember and pray for, our brother and sister warriors who are out there protecting all that we value.

Have a blessed and peaceful Holiday Season.

Joseph Womack

Chaplain



We stood outside a couple of Jewel Foods stores earlier in the fall and collected about \$3,500 which we have already presented to MACG 48. Donations are still arriving from local bars and taverns were T4T Trains contain the name and amount donated. We estimate that we should be able to give MACG 48 another \$1,500 shortly.

Each year Al Seyler takes some of the collected toys and delivers them to Zacharias in Gurnee. Al reported that there was a young lady working there who asked if there was a way to get a donated Christmas Tree? Al said, "I'll get back to you on that". Al called Jim Sroka and asked that he keep an eye open for a Christmas Tree being donated to Veterans Closet. Al's granddaughter overheard the conversation. She is a special needs kid who works 3 hours a day for three days at Walmart each week.

The next day Cassie called Grandpa and asked if a seven foot tree she saw at Walmart would work for Zacharias? After all, it was on SALE!!! She wanted to buy the tree with HER money and give it to those kids. Al drove Cassie and her mother over to Zacharias where she presented HER tree. She was absolutely beaming with pride.

To quote Al, "You know, I am pretty positive right now, having witnessed this-- Yes -- It is better to give than receive."

It's not too late for you to donate to Toys for Tots. Write your check payable to:

Toys for Tots Foundation

% Lake County Marine Corp League Det. 801

PO Box 7732

Gurnee, IL 60031

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

SCUTTLEBUTT FROM THE STAFF



If you want to purchase a Marines leather jacket (as above), you must call Jim Sroka at (847) 877-9511. He needs to hear from you not later than Monday, 12 December. The cost for a medium jacket is \$130 plus shipping to Jim. Large sizes cost more. You must pick up the jacket at a future detachment meeting.



Remember our Ugly Christmas Sweater Parties, its back! 20 December at Steven's following our monthly meeting we'll pick the best! Sorry for the last minute notice.



Our new Fun Committee Chairman is Al Seyler!!

Please be sure to save these dates!

21 March - St Paddy's Day

24 May - Memorial Day Picnic

17 October - Officer's Installation Dinner



COLOR & HONOR GUARD



Guest speaker, Col David Joseforsky, USMC, CO, MACG 48 joined the Color Guard for a picture before the Veterans Day program started at Lindenhurst.

Color and Honor Guard

On 11/10/2022 at 1200 we presented colors at Waukegan H.S.

On 11/11/2022 at 1100 we did a rifle volley at Lindenhurst Memorial.

Also, we presented colors at Brookdale home in Vernon Hills.

On 11/12/2022 we presented colors at the American Legion in Fox Lake to kick off Toys for Tots / USMC 247th Birthday Breakfast.

On 11/21/2022 detachment members and the Honor Guard stood casket guard. The Color Guard fired a Rifle Volley at Antioch-Strang Funeral home for a fallen MARINE Robert M. Lehner. He was the father of Brad Lehner who manages Stevens Restaurant where we hold our monthly meetings.

If you would like to join the Color Guard, just see Ed Mampe Color Guard Commander. Please call me for details, (847) 641-9689.

We have practice at the Warren Township located 17801 Washington St, Gurnee. Every other Thursday starting Thursday 12/1/2022 at 1800.

**WELCOME
ABOARD**



Thomas Martinez joins us via MCRD San Diego. He joined the Corps in 1997 and was aboard for 8 years. Discharged as a sergeant E-5. Thomas spent time with the 4th Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion and the 5th Battalion 14th Regiment on Seal Beach, CA. He sells for Eli Lilly and lives in Libertyville.

CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FHCC VISITS



Here's Chuck Butrim. Greg Cummings, Nada Sydow,
Mary Carmody and Don Bahe.

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. [Click here for their website.](#)

Greg Cummings



EAGLE SCOUTS



Can you walk, talk and chew gum at the same time? Can you stand in front of a group of people and talk to them without getting flustered? If so, maybe you can help us present Ka-Bars to new Eagle Scouts. Please let me know if you want to join the Eagle Scout presentation team. Mel Ellingsen (847) 274-8144.



and

then

“SMED”

said

The Little Guy Next Door

Several years ago, while getting ready for an Eagle Scout Presentation, the doorbell rang. I ran downstairs in my “Corporal Fumes” uniform and looked out the front door window nothing. I no sooner had returned up-stairs to retie my field scarf than the bell again rang. Once more I ran downstairs and looked out the door window and saw nothing. While standing there puzzled, the bell rang a third time. I opened the door and looked down.

Standing there was the little guy from next door. I opened the conversation by saying, “Hello David, what’s up?”

He replied; “My plane, it’s in your tree”. Sez I, “Well, go get it”.

“I can’t. “Why not”? “It’s too high”.

“Show me”.

He led me across the yard to the street and pointed upward.

“There!”, he said. “I don’t see it”. “It’s across the street”. “I still don’t see it.”

“Over there”, he said pointing two doors over.

“David, that’s not my yard”.

“I know, but I can’t get it”.

“Show me, I still don’t see it”.



He pointed, and there about twenty feet overhead was a small model airplane. I asked him if he had a bucket of tennis balls we could throw to dislodge it and he said, “No.”

I told him to wait there while returning home to get my extendible fiberglass painting rod. With an old paint roller reformed into a hook, it was now used to place wind chimes as well as Christmas lights in front yard tree branches.

Upon my return, no David, so I proceeded to shake the branch holding the model plane when his voice pleaded, “Don’t shake the tree. I’ll fall!”. About fifteen feet up and out of sight, he was shinnying up the back side of the trunk.

“Get down from there, your folks will have my hide if you fall”, and at that point the plane fell loose and glided down.

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I asked him why he came to me and not his dad and with the logic of a child replied, "Because he's at work".

That seems like only yesterday, but this evening I learned that tomorrow (4 November) David graduates from Marine Boot Camp at Parris Island following in his fathers' footsteps. Tomorrow, young Pvt. David Wright will be presented his EG&A and becomes a United States Marine, a title that he will wear forever. No one can ever take it away. He has earned it!

I am privileged to have been able to watch "a little guy from next door" grow up and follow in his fathers' footsteps by becoming a member of The Corps.

SEMPER FIDELIS little Brother, I am so proud of your many accomplishments.

David is the son of one of our former #801 Detachment members Will Wright and his spouse Sara. The family moved several years ago to the Camp McCoy area in Wisconsin but both of our families have kept in touch.



OORAH!!!!

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, Ed Mampe, Warren Blacklock, Col. Jim Swab, Charles Walgreen and Joe Wallace.

The Board of Directors unanimously approved 2 requests for Funds.

1.- Navy Recruits Christmas Dinner - \$1,000.00.

Each year Bob and Linda Stack (Gold Star Parents and Members of 801) host a group of Navy Recruits from Great Lakes RTC (boot camp). They pick them up by bus and travel to Christian Liberty Academy in Arlington Heights (my old High School that I graduated from in 1959). A motor cycle escort joins in-route. They have a program, serve them Christmas dinner and loan them cell phones to call home.

I attended several times and it is a tremendous experience. This year Mel and Shirley Ellingsen will again be helping out. If you want to experience the true meaning of Christmas and family has not got you tied you down, give them a hand. You will love it !!

2.- Veterans Closet - \$1,500.00.

Veterans Closet continues to grow and help more Veterans. They have also been a big help to our Detachment and support our programs. They have outgrown their present facility and have gotten new ground north of their present location. They are looking to break ground on building the new facility soon. This is the same amount we have given in the past.

We are scheduling a meeting of the Board to start off the new year.

Al Seyler
President

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

PTSD Resources