

# THE JARHEAD JOURNAL

Charles Walgreen, Commandant ([Commandant@lakecountymarines.com](mailto:Commandant@lakecountymarines.com))

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



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



## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801



Every year at our September meeting we recognize all our members who served on our committees such as Color Guard, Eagle Scout Presentations, Fund Raising and Foundation Board.

And, we enjoyed listening to Bill Kurtis, award winning journalist, tell us about his time as an enlisted Marine and as a Navy Lieutenant.

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801

### The Jarhead Journal

#### Published Monthly

Editor: Mel Ellingsen

[editor@lakecountymarines.com](mailto:editor@lakecountymarines.com)

(847) 274-8144

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

#### 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
Chaplain:	Joe Womack
Asst. Chaplin	MGYSgt. Wayne Carle
Sgt. at Arms:	Carter Mitchell
Color Guard Commander	Ed Mampe
Quartermaster:	Frank Contee
Va Hospital Visits:	Nada Sydow
Junior Past Commandant	Ed Mampe
Web Sgt.:	Mel Ellingsen
Fun Chairman:	Al Seyler

Our next meeting is scheduled for

15 October (Tuesday)

Start Time 1800 or 6:00 pm

Officer Installation and Awards

Steven's Restaurant

#### Where Stuff Is

- #1 Pig Roast
- #2 September Meeting
- #3 Where Stuff Is
- #4 Commandant's Comments
- #5 Chaplain's Corner
- #6 Color Guard
- #7 VA Hospital Visits
- #8 Eagle Scouts
- #9 Future Events
- #10 Welcome Aboard
- #11 Smedley Said
- #12 More Smedley Said
- #13 Foundation
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- #15 More Military Internet Links

[Click to Pay Your Dues Here.](#)

### SAVE THE DATES

15 October - 6:00 PM Officer Installation and Awards Dinner

9 November - McHenry Detachment Birthday Ball

10 November - 249th USMC Birthday 6:00 PM Gurnee American  
Legion Post 771 - 2nd Floor

5-8 June 2025 - 81st Department Convention - Crystal Lake

The Year 2025 - 250th USMC Anniversary

**COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS**

## I AM A MARINE

### NEVER GIVE UP! NEVER SURRENDER!

Elections are now closed, and officers are now ready to be installed next month at our installation dinner October 15th.

I personally want to thank the entire Detachment #801 for the last two years officiating as Commandant. It has truly been an honor to represent and serves you Marines and FMF Corpsmen from 2022-2024. A deep appreciation to my staff, Sr. Vice Commandant, Hank Landrau, Jr. Vice Commandant, Allan Perez, Paymaster, Mel Ellingsen, Adjutant, John Jezioro, Judge Advocate, Peter Karlovics, Chaplain, Joe Womack, Sergeant at Arms, Carter Mitchell and Quarter Master, Frank Contee for all your support during those years to make for an outstanding and memorable experience.

A big Oorah to our incoming officers Commandant Tom Koncan Jr., Sr. Vice Commandant, Ed Cooper, Jr. Vice Commandant, Allan Perez and Paymaster, Nolan Webster.

What a great year it has been with all of you. Thank you for stepping up and volunteering and sharing your valuable time making Detachment #801 the best damn detachment in the Nation!

Semper Fi

Charles Walgreen  
Commandant 2022-2024

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

**Chaplain's Message September 2024**

September?? A chilly past weekend provided us all a hint that fall, complete with Friday night football games, Halloween and Thanksgiving is just around the corner. We are all too familiar with what comes next----Brr!

Covid---I was the unlucky recipient of the latest strain of Covid and naturally passed it on to my wife. Paxlovid, plus a week of unscheduled rest did the trick and we are both back on our feet. It would be helpful to know how many of our league have been infected. A word of caution, our doctor informed us that this is more widespread than what we have been told by the current administration and as an airborne disease it is very catchable.

Now, something positive; the Pig Roast last Saturday, was a success. The Lord provided us a perfect day. For those of you not able to attend, you missed an afternoon of good food, fun and camaraderie.

Looking forward to getting together soon.

Semper Fi!  
Joe Womack  
Chaplain





## **COLOR & HONOR GUARD**



### **Color and Honor Guard**

We have practice on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at the American Legion Post 771 in Gurnee starting at 1830.

Ed Mampe Color Guard Commander

PH #847-641-9689

## CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FHCC VISITS



Warren Blacklock has volunteered to be our VA Hospital Visitation Chair. Both Warren and Nada Sydow are certified to enter the residential areas. These members are starting the process to get certified.

Ed and Carol Mampe

Linda Smolich

Al Blut and Charlotte Stevens

Walter Roth

Al Seyler

Current plans call for the team to visit the veteran community on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 1:30 until 3:00 PM. Warren and Nada will start next week to run recognizance at the VA before everyone gets approved.

If you want to participate, call Warren Blacklock (847) 918-8252 or leave him an email at [sennhs@yahoo.com](mailto:sennhs@yahoo.com).





## EAGLE SCOUTS



We will have presented 17 Ka-Bars by the end of September. Col. Jim Homan presented on 29 September. More are scheduled for October and one on 10 November.

We're always looking for help making these presentations.

Mel Ellingsen (847) 274-8144 Eagle Scout Chair



## **Officer Installation and Awards Dinner**

**Tuesday 15 October at Steven's**

**Starts at 6:00 PM not 6:30 PM.**

We will Install our newly elected and appointed detachment officers and recognize our 2024 Marine of the Year.

Dinner follows at no cost to the members; cash bar.

We need a head count, so call Mel at (847) 274-8144 or email [lakecountymarinesmcl@gmail.com](mailto:lakecountymarinesmcl@gmail.com) and let us know how many attending.

## **249th USMC Birthday Detachment 801 Celebration**

**Sunday - 10 November at Gurnee American  
Legion Post 771 - 749 Milwaukee Ave.**

**2nd Floor**

**Starts at 6:00 PM**

Reading the Order, cake cutting, pizza, and beverages.

We know all of you will be there!!!!

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801**



Welcome back Virginia Brubeck to Detachment 801. Virginia started at Paris Island in November 2001. Her MOS was 6531-Aircraft Ordnance Technician and spent most of her enlistment at MCAS Miramar. Virginia left active duty as a Corporal in 2007. She lives in Chicago and works as a sales representative.





and

then

**“SMED”**

said ....

To all my Marine Corps League Brothers and Sisters in Lake County,  
Semper Fi!

My “bride” and I just returned to our hotel from the detachment pig roast at Al & Kathy Seyler’s home in Wadsworth. We drove over 1,300 miles from our Florida home in Florida to attend and had a great time. It was well worth the trip. The food was terrific with a wide array of desserts, the weather was perfect, and the camaraderie was spectacular (in my estimation). Even the pig was smiling. (And he was not just participating, he was committed!)

Several of the members I had not seen for several years and it was a treat to re-establish former friendships. Those of you that could not attend for whatever reason missed a wonderful gathering.

I did discover that I could no longer pitch a horseshoe the length of the proscribed course, try as I may. I practiced for well over fifteen minutes and only was able to slide one in for one point. Strange! Even as a kid I was able to regularly throw sliders for two point “leaners” or even an occasional “ringer”. It could not possibly be a loss of skill, I decided Al must have placed the stakes a little too far apart. (My story and I am sticking to it!) I spent as much time searching for shoes that had rolled into the bushes than I did in pitching them.

I really enjoyed “Ralphie’s Range”! It has been years since having the opportunity to use a B-B gun. I had forgotten how much fun it was to “plink” beer & soda cans off a log. Years ago (at the age of 9 or 10) I received a Daisy Red Rider B-B gun for Christmas. I set up a range behind the house and every time I hit the can would take a step back. If I missed, I took a step forward. All summer long I practiced. Along about August, Dad wanted me to assist in painting the asbestos shingles covering the house only to discover a summer of using the house as a backdrop to my “shooting range” had destroyed the shingles as every miss of the can resulted in a dent in a shingle resulting in a water leak which required a replacement. The remaining portion of my summer vacation was spent removing, replacing and painting those blamed shingles. So much for summer vacation.

## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE LAKE COUNTY DETACHMENT 801**

A thought occurred to me as I was thinking about today's activities. The day any organization stops growing is the day that organization begins dying. The activities enjoyed today could very well be used to help recruit new members. For the miserly annual sum of \$35.00 members can enjoy a free St. Patrick's Day Dinner, a free Marine Birthday (beer & pizza) Party, an Officer Installation/Marine of The Year celebration as well as being eligible to have the Detachment present at our "last duty send-off" with a casket guard, a final salute ceremony, and a rifle volley (by request of the family). During a time of escalating inflation and run-away pricing of nearly everything under the sun, how is all of this for a bargain? Where else can you get all of the above for only \$35.00?

Think about that!

Go find that new member!

And, keep coming to meetings, and keeping your dues current!

Thank you Al. Thank you Kathy. And, thank you to all who showed up early to assist in setting up, those bringing refreshments and the ones staying after to help taking it all down. It was a wonderful afternoon. It was great to see and visit with all of you!

The next business meeting is the Detachment Officer Installation and presentation of Marine of The Year. Plan to attend!

See all of you next month?

Semper Fidelis my friends.

-30-

SMED



***Lake County Marine Corps League Foundation***

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.

There were no requests for assistance.

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**

**PTSD Resources**

**Past copies of the Jarhead Journal can be viewed here:**

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



# Marine Corps League (MCL) Resources

## Websites:

[www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org) – MCL national website – **SHIPS STORE**

[www.mcleaguelibrary.org](http://www.mcleaguelibrary.org) – MCL national public documents / resources

[www.mcleaguelibrary.org/member-library](http://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/member-library) - Password (DD2), library holds meeting minutes, forms, national bylaws / administrative procedures manuals to include MCL uniform guidance and MCL awards guidance, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ <https://theillinoismarine.com> \_\_\_\_\_ Department website

\_\_\_\_\_ <https://lakecountymarines.com> \_\_\_\_\_ Detachment website

## Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/mclnational](https://www.facebook.com/mclnational) - MCL National

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064587650733](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064587650733) Chicago Area MC Co-Council

[www.facebook.com/groups/67134899955](https://www.facebook.com/groups/67134899955) 2<sup>nd</sup> District Facebook

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068070852934](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068070852934) Department Facebook

[www.facebook.com/groups/48678176402](https://www.facebook.com/groups/48678176402) Detachment Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/groups/mclhonorguardandcolorguard](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mclhonorguardandcolorguard) - MCL Honor Guard / Color Guard

[www.facebook.com/groups/447677227018622](https://www.facebook.com/groups/447677227018622) - MCL National Membership Committee

[www.facebook.com/groups/mcluniforms](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mcluniforms) - MCL Uniforms Buy-Sell-Trade

[www.facebook.com/groups/mclconnections](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mclconnections) - MCL Connections (MCL members only)

[www.facebook.com/groups/usmccollectibles](https://www.facebook.com/groups/usmccollectibles) - USMC Sell Your Sh\*\*!

## Other:

[www.youtube.com/themarinecorpsleague](https://www.youtube.com/themarinecorpsleague) - Click “subscribe” for new content

[www.instagram.com/hqmcl](https://www.instagram.com/hqmcl) – MCL national Instagram

[www.militaryorderofthedevidogs.org](http://www.militaryorderofthedevidogs.org) – MODD Kennel website

[www.nationalmcla.org](http://www.nationalmcla.org) – MCL national Auxiliary

[www.linkedin.com/company/marine-corps-league](https://www.linkedin.com/company/marine-corps-league) - MCL national LinkedIn

*We encourage you all as members to visit these websites and social media pages. Take a look around and know all the resources available to you on these platforms. Please share this information with all members not only in leadership positions, but your Detachment members.*

*Questions about any of these resources can be addressed directly to the **MCL** National Public Relations Committee for assistance.*

**[publicrelations@mcleague.org](mailto:publicrelations@mcleague.org)**