

Marines as the first month of 2020 wraps up and we are pushed into February, remember that today more then ever before Marines (and other military) that have fulfilled their contracts and are entering back into civilian life, need each of you more then they will need anyone else. We as Marines need to help guide them with their transition to help them adapt and control their PTSD and their stress entering civilian life. That transition as we recall is not easy. We need to help them learn fiscal and financial stability. The best medicine and the best help we can give each other and to each of them is friendship and the ability to give a piece of themselves to a cause or function that benefits society. When these Marines help others then a piece of them is saved. When they learn and find out they are never alone and can help people, then the very people they are helping are actually helping that Marine find peace and happiness. Marines when we do for others and ask nothing in return, in theory that is when we start to heal. This month find a young Marine or individual and take them under your wing. Teach others by volunteering and showing up to events. By showing up we are physically showing others we are here, and we will help. It only takes one Marine to make a difference in the lives of people around the event they are helping with.

I will end with this, to act out like a child we help no one. To think we are better than anyone makes us incapable of helping anyone. To think or assume we get anything without hard work and effort is wrong. To throw a fit or tantrum and act up all because you do not agree with or like someone are qualities unbecoming of a Marine and an Associate of the Marine Corps League. To play dumb or stupid in order to hurt or defy what is asked of you is not even acceptable in civilian society. To go outside and or around the chain of command only hurts the entire unit and divides us, never being able to help anyone not even ourselves. Let's us learn patience and compassion, let us reach out first before anyone has to reach out to us, let us be the first to forgive each other and the first to forgive ourselves. A quality of a Marine is not what we can do as individuals but the missions we accomplish together.

God bless the United states Marine Corps and each and everyone of you

Jeffrey W Jansen Commandant of the Gem City Marine Corps League Detachment #790

217-316-0219

Jeff Jansen 2020 Commandant Gem City Detachment #790 Marine Corps League Quincy, Illinois

## **Marine Corps News**



Minnie Spotted Wolf (1923–1988) was the first Native American woman to serve in the United States Marine Corps.

A member of the Blackfoot tribe, Spotted Wolf spent her childhood working on her father's ranch in Heart Butte, Montana, where she cut fence posts, drove trucks and broke horses. She first expressed an interest in joining the army when she was aged 18, shortly after the US entered into World War 2 at the end of 1941. However she was initially discouraged by a recruitment officer who told her that the war was 'not for women'.

Spotted Wolf was eventually accepted into the Marine Corps Women's Reserve in July 1943, making her the first Native American female Marine. She almost did not accept the post as her father was dying from a horse riding accident, however her mother and sister strongly encouraged her to pursue her ambitions. She underwent rigorous boot camp training at Camp Lejeune, during which she gained 15 pounds of weight from the diet and rigorous exercise. She later described the training as "hard, but not too hard" given her background on the ranch.

On completion of her training Spotted Wolf went on to serve 4 years in the Marines in California and Hawaii. She drove trucks loaded with heavy equipment, a job normally reserved for men, and also sometimes worked as a jeep driver for visiting generals. Spotted Wolf's career quickly gathered media attention and she was featured in numerous news stories, and even her own comic book, to promote the war effort.

Following her discharge in 1947, Spotted Wolf returned to Montana where she married a farmer named Robert England with whom she had four children. She attended college to qualify as a teacher and spent the next 29 years teaching in reservation schools. She died in 1988 aged 65 and was buried in her military uniform.

## <u>Commandant calls for 'best and brightest' Marines to serve in the III Marine Expeditionary</u> <u>Force</u>



Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. David Berger has called on Marine leaders to identify the best performing Marines and mentor them into serving in the Pacific, according to an administrative message released Tuesday.

The Maradmin is part of a general push by Berger in his planning guidance to build a Marine Corps focused on countering the rising military threat in China.

"Commanding Generals, Commanding Officers, Senior Enlisted Leaders, and mentors of every rank should actively mentor and identify our highest quality NCOs, SNCOs, and officers for duty in the Pacific," Berger wrote.

Berger has said he sees China's developing naval force and increasing expansion in the Pacific as a gamechanger, one that requires the Marine Corps to build up new capabilities and increase its integration with the Navy.

One of the most important units in the commandant's plan is the III Marine Expeditionary Force, headquartered in Okinawa, Japan, often seen as one of the least desirable postings in the Marine Corps — an attitude Berger acknowledges in the message.

Berger's visions for the Marine Corps emphasizes a renewed focus on priority toward "III MEF's ability to provide ready, stand-in forces in support of INDO-PACOM and Commander, 7th Fleet," the MARADMIN reads. "Ultimately, this requires a change of attitude about what it means to serve in the Pacific." The commandant's sentiments were echoed by Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Troy Black during the Force Level Summit in Okinawa, Japan, mid-January.



## **Coming Events-2020**

Illinois Veterans Home Dance Dates

- April 25th
- May 30th
- June 27th
- July 25th
- August 29th
- Sept 26th
- Oct 31st (There will be a Halloween themed dance. DRESS UP!)

The Monthly meetings are always the first Monday of the month unless it is a holiday then it will be the Following Monday

Next meeting is March 2nd at 1900 in the Coffee Shop. Associate members are welcome to come but May not vote on anything regarding the league

Upcoming events TBD: MCL night for family at Scotty's Funspot, Sadie Hawkins dance, Mess night

NOTE: Membership annual dues are \$35.00. MCL National does NOT send out a notice any longer. Dues are due September 1st. This is also the dues for an associate member

The band for the 2020 Marine Corps Veterans Dances is going to be BenJamin.

PLEASE REMEMBER ALL PICTURES MUST BE APPROVED BY THE LEAGUE AS A WHOLE PRIOR TO BEING SUBMITTED ANYWHERE!

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Jr. Past Commandant	DOELLMAN, LUKE	(217) 617-3152

## FYI

If any of the Marine Corps League members' wives would like to become an associate member, please contact Commandant Jeff Jansen at 217-316-0219

Monday @ Feb 3rd's meeting we will have a special guest speaker. It will be Glen Sanders from the Mississippi Valley Hunters and Fishers Assoc. We will also have pizza that evening. Please contact Jeff Jansen by Sunday Feb 2nd to let him know the kind of pizza you would like.

There will be an officer's meeting at 1830 just prior to the regular monthly meeting. All officers must attend.

Saturday Feb 1 at 0930 at the coffee shop all officers are meeting to complete bookwork. The by-laws were being redone but have not been entered by the Judge Advocate or Paymaster. Nothing was voted on as the officers are Currently redoing them. These need to be addressed and voted on prior to being sent to Nationals.

The December meeting minutes were tabled related to George Henrendeen's mother passing away. Our condolences To George and his family on the passing of his mother.

We need to take a vote on renewing with the Chamber of Commerce this year. We did not utilize it enough to make it worthwhile and at this point in time, We will take a vote on this

BenJamin has been chosen as the Band for the Veteran's Home Dances this year. Last year we had several issues with finding A band for the dances. BenJamin has offered to do them for a reasonable fee (cheaper than everyone else) and loves coming out to support our Veterans.

We will be voting on helping out with the soapbox derby and on the Parades we would like to participate in

And Lastly—

IF you have any questions or concerns, please address them to Commandant Jeff Jansen at 217-316-0219. Do Not contact others in the league with your concerns. If you are not receiving the newsletter via email, check your spam folders to allow them or unblock the email address that is sending them. There will be no paper newsletters sent via mail anymore to cut costs. They will be provided at the meetings if you have no email address address

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Gem City Detachment 790 Marine Corps League