



THE EMBLEM



GOD

COUNTRY

CORPS



P. L. Wilson Detachment #447, Marine Corps League

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

ANNUAL CAR SHOW & JEEP BASH ON THE BAY

Battleship Memorial Park
2703 Battleship Parkway
Mobile, AL 36602

September 12th
0700 - 1400



- ★ Scan QR code to pre-register
- ★ Gate Fee: \$35
- ★ Registration managed by the Car Pro Program

Judging: Bayou Sara Church Car Club

Sponsor: P.L. Wilson Detachment 447, Marine Corps League

★ Co-Sponsors: ★

- ★ Mobile County, Alabama
- ★ Mobile City, Alabama
- ★ Gardberg & Kemmerly, Attorneys at Law
- ★ Mobile County Sheriff's Office
- ★ Mobile County District Attorney's Office
- ★ Aylstock Witkin Kreis Overholtz, PLC



Contact:

Tom Claxton - 251-767-8489
Tclaxton73@gmail.com



MOBILE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF PAUL BURCH



July 2026 Editon:

Officers and Staff:

Commandant:
Tom Claxton 251-767-8489
TClaxton73@Gmail.com

Senior Vice Commandant:
Tom Wells 251-656-3158
Wellsts96@Gmail.com

Junior Vice Commandant:
Nick Matranga 251-287-4005
NMatranga@Comcast.net

Judge Advocate:
Libby Davis 251-610-9954
Libbyportcity@Yahoo.com

Adjutant:
Tom Wells 251-656-3158
Wellsts96@Gmail.com

WebMaster:
Tom Wells 251-656-3158
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PayMaster:
Jennifer Byrd
PayMasterPLWilson@gmail.com

Chaplain:
Endel Lee
EndelLee@Yahoo.com

Sergeant at Arms:
Steve Guiney
Steve.Guiney1@Icloud.com

Jr. Past Commandant:
Ricky Reed

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250th Independence Day

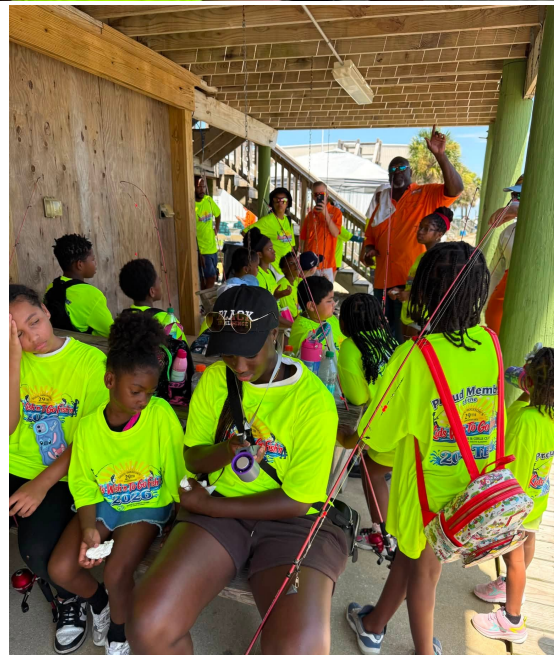


Great time celebrating our country's 250th birthday. Waterfront Restaurant presented their Veteran of the Year Charles Wiggins. Tom Claxton presented Panini Pete and Nick Demario Honorary Member Certificate for their outstanding work for our Veterans. Thank you Waterfront for hosting this charity event for South Alabama Veterans Council. The food was outstanding and amazing fireworks.

Kids Wishing To Go Fishing:



Had a great time at the Kids wishing to go fishing at Dauphin Island on Saturday with Greg Callahan, Russell Fell, Roosevelt Patterson and crew with one of the original founders our very own Tom Claxton. The kids had a wonderful time.



USMC History July



Marines Celebrate America's 25th Anniversary

On July 4, 1801, third President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, reviewed Marines led by the second Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant Colonel William W. Burrows, and the Marine Band. The review took place on the grounds of the White House grounds and the Marines performed drills and fired salutes in observance of our country's 25th anniversary.



A-4 Skyhawk Retired

On July 6, 1990, the last two A-4 Skyhawks from Marine Aircraft Group 32 flew their initial flights from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in North Carolina to Naval Air Station Patuxent River in Maryland, as the Marine Corps decided to retire the Skyhawk from its active aviation structure. The Skyhawk was one of the oldest, most versatile attack aircraft in USMC history, having been in service for more than 30 years.



1st Marine Air Wing Activated

On July 7, 1941, the 1st Marine Air Wing (1st MAW) was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Less than a year after its activation, the 1st MAW participated in the Marine Corps offensive at Guadalcanal. The Guadalcanal campaign would be the first of many legendary battles in the Wing's history, and over the course of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, the 1st MAW earned five Presidential Unit Citations for gallantry.

Battle of Soissons

On July 18, 1918, the 4th Marine Brigade began an attack near Soissons, France. The attack was part of a World War I three-division counterattack against German forces. The Marines sustained 1,972 casualties in the first two days of the battle.



Dates to Remember

July:

Meeting: Thursday 9 July
Chow 1800hrs Meeting 1900hrs

250th Birthday USA 4 July



— LISTEN TO —
SCUTTLEBUTT
RADIO
A VOICE FOR VETERANS

HOSTED BY: TOM CLAXTON & CAL WALTERS
— TWO MARINES WITH SOMETHING TO SAY. —

EVERY WEDNESDAY | 2000-2100 HRS (8-9 PM)
FM TALK 1065 • LISTEN LIVE AT FMTALK1065.COM

WHY TUNE IN

Tackling the issues that matter to
OUR U.S. MILITARY VETERANS

- Unite the veteran community
- Speak with one voice
- Advocate for those who served
- Refuse to be divided by politics or party

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!
CALL IN & SOUND OFF!
OORAH!

WEDNESDAYS • 8-9 PM • FM TALK 1065

Scuttlebutt Network hosted by Tom Claxton with special guest every Wednesday at 2000 hrs discussing the current events in our military. This show is available on [SBN@fmtalk 1065](mailto:SBN@fmtalk1065) podcast. Well worth the listen.

Honor Guard:



Devil Dogs on the Growl!



Devil Dogs

Devil Dogs



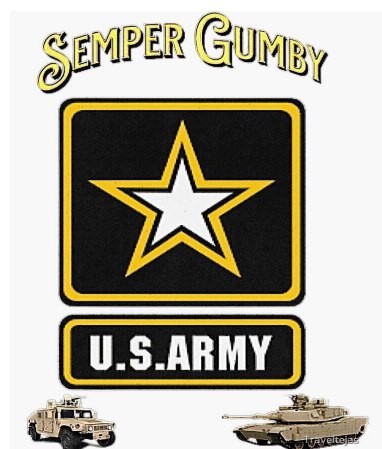
**There will be much howling and whimpering
as many will suffer from fines and mayhem.
But in the end, we will all have a good time.**

**Our Growl will be
12 July 1300 Post 88**



**As always let's keep the less than computer literate
Dogs among us aware of the upcoming growls.
Please contact Pound Keeper Libby Davis (251-610-9954) if you have questions.**

✠ CHAPLAIN'S CORNER ✠



THE SEMPER ("Always") PRAYER

Now, may the grace of God
always chase you,
the hope of God
always find you,
the love of God
always embrace you
and the peace of God
always give rest to your soul.



May you always be strengthened by
the fellowship of Christ's suffering
and the power of His Resurrection,
in order to:

always pray with thanksgiving,
always pursue good,
always speak graciously
and always rejoice in the Lord.



So that you can and will:
always be watchful (Semper Paratus),
always stand firm in the faith (Semper Fidelis),
always be courageously flexible (Semper Gumby),
always be strong (Semper Fortis)
and always do everything in love (Semper Agape).

AMEN!

In Our Prayers:

Lou Lartigue's Family (Grief)

Ray Cox (Health)

Savelle Family (Grief/ Karen's passing)

Jim Smith (Health)

Howard Waters (Health)

Pray for our nation, allies & enemies during
military conflict(s).

July: "One little step may be the beginning
of a great journey." Happy 250 th Birthday,
America!

Unknown

By Endel Lee, 07 March 2026



As a Reminder

Please remember to keep a copy of your
DD-214
handy so if needed for any reason,
your loved ones
can find it.

Det. Chaplain, Endel Lee, RDML, (07/Ret),
CHC, U.S. Navy, USMC Captain (03) &
Sergeant (E-5)

Email: Endellee@yahoo.com

Det. Chaplain Assistant, Charles Warren
CIV Patriot & father of 2 Marines



Officers and Chairmen for 2026

DETACHMENT OFFICERS / COMMITTEES/ STAFF

COMMANDANT	Tom Claxton	251-767-8489
SR. VICE COMMANDANT	Tom Wells	251-656-3158
JR. VICE COMMANDANT	Nick Matranga	251-287-4005
JUDGE ADVOCATE	Libby Davis	251-610-9954
ADJUTANT	Tom Wells	251-656-3158
PAYMASTER	Jennifer Byrd	
CHAPLAIN	Endel Lee	
SERGEANT AT ARMS	Steve Guiney	
JR. PAST COMMANDANT	Ricky Reed	
WEBMASTER	Tom Wells	

DETACHMENT STAFF, LIAISONS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AMERICANISM & HISTORICAL	Bubba Jackson
AWARDS & CERTIFICATE	Ray Cox
BEREAVEMENT	Endel Lee
BIRTHDAY BALL LIAISON	Betty Beatty
COLOR GUARD	Mike Nichols
DIRECTORY	Danny Stephenson
EAGLE SCOUTS	Bubba Jackson
GREEN VETERANS HOME	Robbie Reed
MARINES HELPING MARINES	Roy Lafon
HOSPITALITY	Dan Stephenson
LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	Ricky Reed
MONUMENT	Perry Vaughn
MULHERIN HOME LIAISON	Gwyn Howard
NEWSLETTER <i>The Emblem</i>	Tom Wells
PICNIC	Jim Smith
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER	Annette Claxton
RIFLES	Mike Nichols
ROADBLOCK	Tommy Malone
SEMPER FI GOLF TOURN	Roy Lafon
SERVICE OFFICER	Willie Dunning
SHIPS STORE	Ann Parnell
TOYS FOR TOTS	Betty Beatty
TRAILER	Tommy Malone
VAVS OFFICER	Larry Savell

Still vacant spots to fill. To volunteer, Commandant Tom Claxton at 251-767-8489



IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED THEIR FINAL
ORDERS & HAVE REPORTED TO THE
SUPREME COMMANDANT
SEMPER FIDELIS AND WOOF WOOF MARINES

EARL DODSON
SANDY GALDIS
WOODY VAN
JIM BLAIN
BOB DELANEY
GARY WALLEY
BOB PAYNE
JAN HAGGLER
GENE REESE
EARNIE BOTTS
ROY DELANEY
CECIL FARLEY
WARREN PATRICK
HANK COVINGTON
JACK OLSEN
JOHN SCHAFER
JOHN W. JONES
LARRY ODOM
HENRY MCEACHERN
MIKE AKRIDGE
PRENTISS BAUGHMAN
JAMES COVINGTON
JIM GUNN
SAMUEL FARRIS
DICK BARNETT
CHARLES H. BETHEA
SEN. HOWELL HEFLIN
DAVID THOMPSON
WALT WALDIE
BILL RAMSEY
GEORGE HARTZES
BILL HUNTER
STANLEY MORGAN
MARVIN E. MYER, JR.
MARTIN SALTERS
CHARLES ROBERTS
CHARLES 'CHUCK'
SCAFF
RICK STAFFORD
THOMAS ODOM
CLARENCE KNOX, JR.
ALWIN STRONG
JOE PARKER
WILLIAM B. JONES
DANNY CLEVELAND
PETE HOUSTON
TOMMY SIMMONS
D. B. JOHNSON
JOSEPH G. PETERSON
LUKE LEWIS
GEORGE LEWIS, JR.
HARRY SMITH, JR.
JACK COLEY
BOOTSIE SMITHERMAN
T.C. 'PETE' BATES
JOHN THOMPSON
TOM TOBIN
JOHN GRAY



DAVE CERAMI
TOMMY GULLEY
JOHN GAVIN
MICHAEL O. DUEITT
ED RIGAS
C.B. EDWARDS, JR.
WILLIAM SANSONE
JOSEPH JACKSON
MICHAEL JOINER
JAKE POILLON
JERRY GIRARDEAU
RONALD HUGHES
CHUCK HARDESTY
ROBERT GODWIN

2013

EARNEST "BUDDY" GANDY
ROBERT LEE SIMMONS
ELBERT HARVEY BRYAN
KARL RICHARD GROSS SR
KENNETH WEBSTER GOFF
WILLIAM F. BRAMLETT
JAMES C GUNNELS, JR
LARRY E HEWETT

2014

EDWARD HAYNES
WILLIAM J HAIRE
ROBERT SIMMONS
ARTHUR HEMPHILL
CHARLES GAVIN
JEREMIAH A DENTON JR
ROBERT WAYNE NABORS
BOBBY HEMPFLENG
JAMES S HARRELL
JAMES MCEVOY
JOHN LITTLEJOSEPH
DUEITT
MARCUS RAMSEY

2015

MIKE WELLS
MOISEY FLORES
WALTER MCKEOUGH
SAMUEL VAUGHN, SR.
ALBERT G TANNER
DR SIDNEY PHILLIPS

ALBERT POUNDS
DR NICK NICHOLS
BILL CARPENTER
NORMAN GERALD

2016

EZELL WALKER
KENNETH SKIPPER
JOHN M TYSON
WILLIAM CRABTREE

2017

JOHN WESLEY LYNN
STEPHEN KLINGER
MACK HERRIN
LUTHER LINTON
MIKE SMITH

2018

GEORGE DAVIS
CHARLES HAWKINSON
RAY WILLIAMSON
LARRY KENT
AL PAWLOWSKI
BOB GUESNARD
JERRY ELDER

2019

SIDNEY BIEHL
MARSHA CLAXTON
LEE VAUGHN
RON BRIDGES

2020

WILLIAM HOOKER
JOHN WILSON
FRED WALTERS
JOHN BANKSTON

2021

HERMAN BRASWELL
RICK IVY
MARY JANE JACKSON

2022

RALPH KNOX
WILLIAM MAYHALL

GEORGE SCOTT
JOSEPH BELLINGER

2023

JIM EVANS
DOMINIC MATRANGA
JACK PRESNALL
WILLARD JOHNSON
CHARLIE MALONE
RODNEY LEE

2024

LINDA WADE
GEN. GARY COOPER
THURMAN ROLAND

2025

DAVE SPROTT
JOE ALDRICH
PERRY VAUGHN

2026

Lou Lartigue





MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

**All Regular Members and
Non-Life Associate Membership
dues of \$28 are due September 1st, 2026.**

If delinquent please “pay up” so that you
will be good through
August 31st of 2027.

Payments can be made in person at our
meetings or can be mailed to:
**PL WILSON DETACHMENT, INC. #447
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
1956 South University Blvd
Suite J 141
MOBILE, AL36609**

**For more information on
membership or dues, contact
Paymaster Jennifer Byrd
or email her at
PaymasterPLWilson@gmail.com**

Life Member Information

The P.L. Wilson Detachment is unique in that a large percentage of our members have chosen to become Life Members of our Detachment. Life Members no longer pay annual dues (**currently 28.00**). In addition, Life Members receive a Gold Membership card, a Life Member Marine Corps League Pin, and are eligible for Life Member recognition on their Marine Corps League Cover.

**Life Membership will increase from current
to new rates effective 1 July 2024**

	Old Rate:	New Rate:
Ages up to 35:	\$500.00	\$1,000
Ages: 36 to 50:	\$400.00	\$800
Ages 51 to 64:	\$300.00	\$600
Ages 65 to 84:	\$200.00	\$200
Ages 85 and up:	\$100	\$100

**For information on Life Membership,
Please contact Jr. Vice Commandant
Nick Matranga
251-287-4005**



RECEPTIONS, MEETINGS, OR PARTIES?

**CHECK OUT THE ACCOMMODA-
TIONS & ECONOMICAL RATES
AT THE
AMERICAN LEGION POST 88
2663 Halls Mill Road
Mobile, AL 36606**

**Maximum capacity – 200 people
Hall rental fee - \$200.00
\$50.00 Clean-up fee (Returnable if fa-
cility is left clean)
Alcohol, Soft Drinks, & Snacks availa-
ble at our Pay Bar
Available Add Own's
Use of Kitchen facilities - \$50.00
Use of Barbecue Pit - \$25.00 – waiver
required
Stereo Music /Disc Jockey/ – Fee to be
determined**

**For Additional Information
or Reservations
Call 251-508-0992**