



THE EMBLEM



GOD COUNTRY CORPS



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

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE P.L. WILSON DETACHMENT



NEXT MEETING

June 4th

**Chow: 1800 (6:00 PM)
Meeting: 1900 (7:00 PM)**

**American Legion Post 88
2663 Halls Mill Rd.
Mobile, Alabama 36606**

MobileMarines.org

June 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
MobileMarinesWebMaster@Gmail.com

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

Saluting Our Nation's Purple Heart Recipients

Honoring Alabama's Fallen Heroes

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of Our Great Nation

August 7, 2026

Daphne Civic Center, 2603 US Hwy 98, Daphne, AL 36526



5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

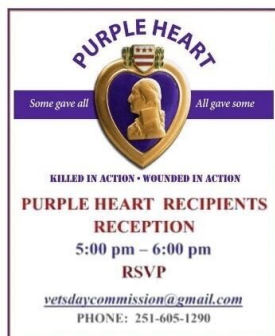
Purple Heart Ceremony
6:00 pm – 7 pm

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr.
Chancellor of Troy University
Patriot of the year 2025

Dr. Andrew Del Gaudio
Military Order Purple Heart
Department of Alabama Commander

HONORED GUEST



Alabama Fallen Heroes
Daphne Boy Scout Troop 87
Daphne High School JROTC
Zachary Thomas Diedrich

HOSTS



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



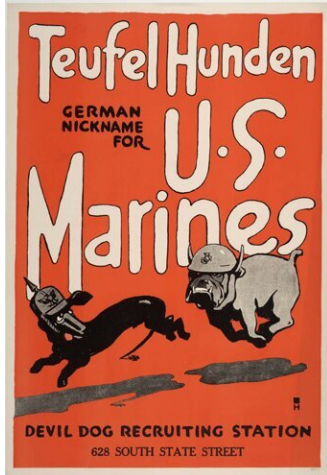
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Armed Forces Day



Great time was had today at the Battleship remembering Armed Forces Day and MRE cookoff. Congratulations to our team of Allen and Mona Rester, Tom Wells and Allen's brother Adam Robert' for winning first place in best tasting MRE!

USMC History June



German Troops Attack American Forces in France

On June 2, 1918, the German 28th Division attacked American troops on the Paris-Metz Road, hitting the American 2nd Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened fire with deadly accuracy, helping hand German troops a setback that set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow.



Marines Land at Guantanamo Bay

On June 10, 1898, the First Marine Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Huntington, landed at Guantanamo Bay.

The next day, Lieutenant Herbert Draper raised the American flag over Camp McCalla where it flew for the next eleven days. Huntington later sent the flag to Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood informing him (Heywood) that, "[w]hen bullets were flying, ...the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts."



Operation Jay

On June 25, 1966, Operation Jay began approximately 20 miles northwest of the central Vietnamese city of Hue. The operation, which lasted nine days, saw the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines land north of the North Vietnamese 812th Main Force Battalion, while the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines landed south of the enemy's position. Caught between the two Marine units, the North Vietnamese battalion suffered more than 80 dead during the course of the operation.



Lewis "Chesty" Puller is Born

On June 26, 1898, Lewis "Chesty" Puller, the most decorated Marine in history, was born in West Point, Virginia.

Puller would enlist in the Marine Corps in 1918 during World War I (although he didn't see action during that war) and in 37 years of service, he served in numerous conflicts during the "Banana Wars," including the Occupation of Haiti and the Occupation of Nicaragua, World War II, including the Battles of Guadalcanal and Peleliu, and the Korean War, including the Battle of Inchon and the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.

By the time he retired in 1955, Puller was (and still remains) the most decorated Marine in the history of the Corps. Puller is one of only two American servicemen to be awarded five Navy Crosses (the other being Rear Admiral Roy Davenport) and, with the Distinguished Service Cross awarded to him by the U.S. Army, he is the only serviceman to have been awarded the nation's second-highest military awards for valor six times.

Dates to Remember

June:

Meeting: Thursday 4 June
Chow 1800hrs Meeting 1900hrs

Flag Day Sunday 14 June

Father's Day Sunday 21 June



A vertical advertisement for "Scuttlebutt Radio". The top half features silhouettes of two veterans against an American flag background. A vintage microphone is positioned between them. The text reads "LISTEN TO SCUTTLEBUTT RADIO" in large, bold, distressed letters, with "A VOICE FOR VETERANS" on a red banner below. The hosts are listed as "HOSTED BY: TOM CLAXTON & CAL WALTERS" with the tagline "TWO MARINES WITH SOMETHING TO SAY." The broadcast schedule is "EVERY WEDNESDAY | 2000-2100 HRS (8-9 PM)" and "FM TALK 1065 • LISTEN LIVE AT FMTALK1065.COM". The middle section is titled "WHY TUNE IN" and lists the show's focus: "Tackling the issues that matter to OUR U.S. MILITARY VETERANS". A bulleted list includes: "Unite the veteran community", "Speak with one voice", "Advocate for those who served", and "Refuse to be divided by politics or party". The bottom section says "JOIN THE CONVERSATION! CALL IN & SOUND OFF! OORAH!" with an image of a pair of tan combat boots. At the very bottom, it says "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



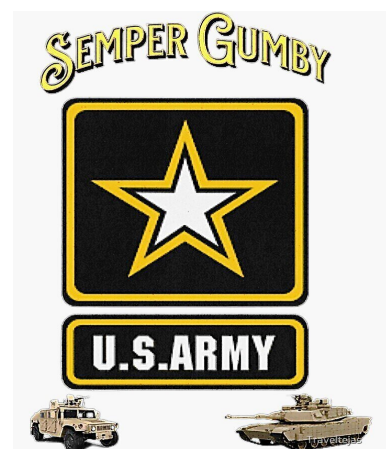
**There will be much howling and whimpering
as many will suffer from fines and mayhem.
But in the end, we will all have a good time.**

**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!

By Endel Lee, 07 March 2026

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).

June:

"Wisdom is the right use of knowledge. . . .
Many men know a great deal, and are all the
greater fools for it. There is no fool so great
a fool as a knowing fool. But to know how
to use knowledge is to have wisdom."
Charles Spurgeon



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	Vacant
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 SCHAFFER
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 ACCOMMODATIONS & 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 facility is left clean)
Alcohol, Soft Drinks, & Snacks available 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**