

# Welcome Aboard



April 2021

Marine Corps League

Los Angeles West Valley  
Detachment 1490

Once a Marine - Always a Marine



You have just joined a camaraderie that is unlike no other. Our membership proudly supports veterans, their families and the local community. This booklet is an educational guide.

Meetings are held at Canoga VFW Post 2805.

Day: Last Thursday of every Month

Time: 6:00pm meet and greet,  
followed by business meeting at 7:00pm

Come early to mingle and get to know everyone because the detachment only grows stronger when you put forth the effort to strengthen the bonds.

### **Visit our website and follow us on social media**

Website: [mcl1490.org](http://mcl1490.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MCLdet1490>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mcldet1490>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/los-angeles-west-valley-marine-corps-league-detachment-1490/>





*We all have a debt to our country,  
We all have to make a sacrifice for the freedoms we have and the  
lives we live.  
Some repay that debt by serving their country and others just take  
it for granted.  
I didn't want to be one of those.  
As a Marine I can go on with my life with no regrets.*

---

## **About the Marine Corps League**

### **Mission Statement**

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines and former Marines and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

### **History**

The Marine Corps League perpetuates the traditions and spirit of ALL Marines and Navy FMF Corpsmen, who proudly wear or who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor of the Corps. It takes great pride in crediting its founding in 1923 to World War I hero, then Major General Commandant John A. Lejeune. It takes equal pride in its Federal Charter, approved by An Act of the Seventy-Fifth Congress of the United States of America and signed and approved by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on August 4, 1937. The League is the only Federally Chartered

Marine Corps related veterans organization in the country. Since its earliest days, the Marine Corps League has enjoyed the support and encouragement of the active duty and Reserve establishments of the U. S. Marine Corps. Today, the League boasts a membership of nearly 61,000 men and women, officer and enlisted, active duty, Reserve Marines, honorably discharged Marine Veterans and qualified Navy FMF Corpsmen and is one of the few Veterans Organizations that experiences increases in its membership each year.

The Marine Corps League is headed by an elected National Commandant, with 14 elected National Staff Officers who serve as trustees. The National Board of Trustees coordinates the efforts of 48 department, or state, entities and the activities of over 1,300 community-based detachments located throughout the United States and overseas. The day-to-day operations of the League are under the control of the National Executive Director with the responsibility for the management and direction of all programs, activities, and affairs of the Marine Corps League as well as supervising the National Headquarters staff.

The prime authority of the League is derived from its Congressional charter and from its annual National Convention held each August in different major U.S. cities throughout the nation. It is a not-for-profit organization within the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c) (4), with a special group exemption letter which allows for contributions to the Marine Corps League, its Auxiliary and subsidiary units, to be tax deductible by the donor.



## **Programs of the Marine Corps League**

### **MARINES HELPING MARINES - WOUNDED MARINES PROGRAM**

The program was created to support injured Marine Corps personnel located at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, Brooke Army hospital in San Antonio, as well as the Naval Hospitals at Balboa, Camp Pendleton and elsewhere. The scope of support encompasses; financial, visits from Marine Corps League members, off site day trips to include family outings, dinners, short trips in support of the individual Marines' needs and professional sporting events as tickets and opportunities present themselves.

### **YOUNG MARINES OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

A youth program emphasizing honesty, courage, respect, industry, loyalty, dependability, and a sense of devotion to God, country, community and family. The Young Marines program receives funding from Congress and the United States Marine Corps primarily because of their drug interdiction focus on drug education and prevention.

### **U. S. MARINES YOUTH PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM**

The League developed and administers a program that provides a physical fitness regimen that promotes a healthy, drug free life style for elementary and high school students.

### **BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

The Marine Corps League has long regarded the program of the Boy Scouts of America as in support of the Preamble of the Constitution of the League. The League supports the Boy Scouts of America as they promote traditional family values to America's youth. The Marine Corps League participates in Scouting through assistance with units, districts, and councils, in community projects, merit badge programs, and special recognition of Eagle Scouts.

### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Members of the Marine Corps League fund scholarships through donations from individual members and subordinate units of the Marine Corps League and Auxiliary. Children and former Marines are eligible for academic scholarships for attendance at accredited colleges and universities.

### **LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

The Marine Corps League is a member of The Military Coalition and participates in National and State legislative issues that affect military readiness, benefits and entitlements of active duty personnel as well as Veterans Benefits programs effecting former and retired Marines.

## **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER PROGRAM**

The National Headquarters retains a full-time staff member who assists veterans in adjudicating claims against the government as a result of active duty service. Claims are processed through the Department of Veterans Affairs or other appropriate agencies of the federal government.

## **VETERANS AFFAIRS VOLUNTARY SERVICE PROGRAM (VAVS)**

Marine Corps League members contribute thousands of man-hours each year supplementing staffs at VA Hospitals and facilities in providing morale, comfort and assistance to institutionalized veterans.

## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY**

The Marine Corps League Auxiliary was chartered on September 4, 1937 as a subsidiary organization of the Marine Corps League. On August 25, 1950, the Auxiliary was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia as an affiliate of the Marine Corps League. The Auxiliary was formed for the purposes of promoting the interests of the U. S. Marine Corps, the Marine Corps League and to protect and advance the welfare of Marines and their dependents. Auxiliary members participate in a wide variety of programs that benefit and preserve the fundamental rights and freedoms of every person of this Nation, young and old.

## **MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS**

The fun and honor society of the Marine Corps League.

## **TOYS-FOR-TOTS**

Marine Corps League Detachments in nearly every community take part annually in the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys-For-Tots campaign to raise funds and collect and distribute toys to needy children. In communities where there is an existing Marine Corps Reserve Unit, the League works hand in hand supporting their campaign. In other communities, the Marine Corps League takes the lead, ensuring a successful campaign.

## **MARINE-4-LIFE/INJURED MARINE SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The League works very closely with the Marine Corps' M-4-L program, providing mentors nationwide. In areas of the country where there is no Marine Corps "point of contact", the League works directly with M-4-L Headquarters to provide services to transitioning Marines.

## **ANNUAL CONVENTIONS**

Members find the State and National Conventions of the League ideal vacation venues for themselves and family members. Held in a different city each year, many families attend year

after year and particularly enjoy the many planned activities and tours related to these get-togethers.

The Marine Corps League is a charter member of The Military Coalition, The National Marine Corps Council, AdHoc Committee, Navy and Marine Corps Council, the National Veterans Day Committee, and is represented on countless committees and programs serving the military and veteran community.

The League participates in patriotic functions such as the National Memorial Day Parade and the National 4th of July Parade in Washington as well as countless statewide and community parades around the country. We provide representation to the U.S. Congress in legislative matters affecting the United States Marine Corps, national security and veteran's benefits through our National Legislative Committee. Most importantly, Marine Corps League Detachments are actively involved in Community based programs throughout the country.

To learn more about the Marine Corps League, visit the following websites:

National Headquarters at [www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)

Southwest Division at [www.mclswdivision.org](http://www.mclswdivision.org)

Department of California at [www.mclcal.org](http://www.mclcal.org)



*You have walked with Honor.*

*You gained the wisdom to command with decisive resolve.*

*You have taken your place among the most elite warriors on earth.*



## Types of memberships

**Regular Member:** Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains (Active, Reserve, Honorably Discharged). (full voting rights. May hold elected and appointed positions).

**Associate Member:** Adult family members and any individual who support the Marine Corps League (no voting rights. Only eligible for appointed positions).

**Dual Member:** A Regular Member in good standing can hold membership in more than one Detachment. Member shall only have voting rights for original detachment they joined regarding voting strength at detachment, department and national level. Regular member shall only have associate level rights in secondary detachment. Regular member can sign a written request for transfer of voting rights to their secondary detachment.

**Life Member:** Regular or Associate Member who are in good standing can pay for a life membership. A Life Member shall be subject to NO further annual dues to the detachment, department or national. Life membership is only good for a single detachment and dual members will have to pay for life membership in secondary detachment.

**Honorary Member:** At the discretion of the Detachment Commandant may issue membership to persons who have been of extraordinary service to the community, nation, U.S. Marine Corps or the Marine Corps League (Not entitled to any voting rights, privileges and benefits of the MCL. Membership is for a one-year period). A certificate is issued to honor the occasion.

## Offices of the Marine Corps League

There is no rank or prominence within the Marine Corps League because everyone is a volunteer. The board of trustees provide direction and are representatives for the detachment to the community but the operation of the detachment is controlled by the voting members. The 4 levels of the league are National, Division, Department and the local Detachment level. All the major offices are the same at each level with exceptions for additional staff positions at each level. The below offices are the minimum required and represent the board of trustees and staff for the detachment. **All positions within the League are made up of members who volunteer and who serve for the pleasure of the membership. Only regular members are eligible to run for elected positions or be appointed to the staff. Associate members are only eligible to be part of the appointed staff. Volunteering is highly encouraged and even the smallest participation is greatly appreciated.**

### Detachment Board of Trustees

Commandant  
Sr. Vice Commandant  
Jr. Vice Commandant  
Judge Advocate  
Jr. Past Commandant

### Appointed Staff Officers

Adjutant  
Paymaster  
Chaplain  
Sergeant-At-Arms  
Public Relations Officer



## **Officer and Staff Duties**

Below is a short synopsis of responsibilities of the Officers and Staff as they pertain to a detachment. Some office descriptions may vary slightly from other detachments. These descriptions are for general information and are not intended to be all inclusive of the responsibilities for a given office.

### **Commandant - Elected, Member of the Board of Trustees**

The Commandant is the Chief Executive Officer of the detachment Board of Trustees, primary contact for the community and is responsible for the activities and financial standing of the detachment. He/she presides at meetings, represents the detachment at functions, formulates and develops programs to improve detachment operations and achieving goals, appoints staff officers and committees. The Commandant may create, dissolve or leave vacant any additional staff positions to meet the goals of the detachment and do not go against what is listed in the detachment bylaws.

### **Sr. Vice Commandant - Elected, Member of the Board of Trustees**

He/she gives assistance and support to the Commandant, is second in command of the detachment, presides in absence of Commandant at meetings or events and prepares for succession to the Commandant's office. The SVC is the senior chairperson for overseeing committees and projects. The SVC will review reports on operations, finances and project results. The SVC will assemble the annual Finance Audit Committee to review the Paymaster's books. They will ensure that detachment officers, appointed staff and committees are trained and given the logistical support to accomplish their tasks.

### **Jr. Vice Commandant - Elected, Member of the Board of Trustees**

The JVC is primarily responsible for recruiting and retention of members and should be familiar with the operations and projects of the detachment. They should be a spokesman to the Board of Trustees on what members are looking for from the organization and to influence member driven programs and activities. He/she promotes special events aimed at enhancing membership, maintain contact with other veterans' organizations and generate interest in the Marine Corps League. They will be designated to assist projects and committees that have an effect on membership participation and retention. They will assist the Adjutant in detachment awards program.

### **Judge Advocate - Elected, Member of the Board of Trustees**

The JA provides legal counsel and opinions on the by-laws, policies, corporate regulations and parliamentary procedure for the detachment. He/she must see that the policies, voted issues and procedures are in conformance with the by-laws and policies of the detachment, department, and national levels. The JA participates in the writing or modification of the by-laws and renders opinions based on the policies, by-laws, or precedents of the detachment. The Commandant may direct the JA to perform periodic reviews of by-laws and finances to assure compliance with detachment policies and procedures. The JA is the "watchdog" for assuring

that the strict adherence to all three levels of the Bylaws and policies are followed to conform to the letter and the spirit within.

**Jr. Past Commandant - Appointed, Member of the Board of Trustees**

The JPC assists in providing continuity from one administration of officers to the next. His/her experience should be utilized for the purposes of educating, assisting officers, provide guidance counsel. Any Past Commandant may be appointed to this position if the outgoing Commandant is unable or declines serving this position.

**Adjutant –Appointed, Staff**

The Adjutant is the recording secretary for detachment meetings and affairs and is responsible for official notifications to members. He/she must keep accurate minutes of meetings, prepare and transcribe minutes for permanent record of the detachment and assure that resolutions are maintained as corporate records. The Adjutant is responsible for the official correspondence, bulletins and other written communications of the detachment. He/she prepares and submits the "Installation of Officers Report", may assist in the completion of the "Membership Transmittal" forms, prepares a variety of other forms that go to department and national levels, and signs certificates of awards. The Adjutant is typically chairman of the Awards Committee. The Adjutant will work with the Paymaster on league related forms, records and membership roster.

**Paymaster –Appointed, Staff**

The Paymaster acts as corporate controller and treasurer of the detachment funds and is responsible for the accounting of revenues and expenditures. He/she must keep accurate fiscal records, responsible for banking and financial accounts, signer on fiscal and banking documents, makes fiscal and financial reports at meetings, receives dues and forwards transmittals to department and national levels, and handles IRS tax and city licensing functions of the detachment. The Paymaster shall provide financial records for annual audits for the Finance Audit Committee that is led by the Sr. Vice Commandant. The Paymaster will typically work with the Adjutant on league related forms, records and membership roster.

**Chaplain –Appointed, Staff**

The Chaplain tends to the needs of members and members families during periods of distress, illness and/or death. The Chaplain is called on to offer invocations and prayer at meetings and ceremonies. He/she may participate in funeral arrangements and publicize needs of the sick. The Chaplain prepares notification to department and national levels regarding deceased members of the detachment. The Chaplain may be called upon to make visitations to members and families that are sick and to offer condolences on behalf of the detachment.

**Sergeant-At-Arms –Appointed, Staff**

The SA is responsible for the physical set up and cleanup of the meeting facilities, maintain order at the business meetings, participates in the presentation and honoring of the Colors at meetings and ceremonies, and greet and introduce members, guests and program participants.

He/she must determine the qualifications for members to attend meetings and excuse those who are not qualified.

**Public Relations Officer – Appointed, Projects Officers**

The Public Relations Officer will seek publicity for the League and Detachment using local media outlets to release information about Detachment activities and events. They will draw attention to the Marine Corps League for positive visibility in the community and to gain new members. They will solicit the businesses of the local community and corporations for donations and other types of funding.

**Color Guard Commander - Appointed, Projects Officer**

The CGC is responsible to select and train members for the Color Guard and Funeral Honor Guard. He/she is to plan and coordinate events with funeral directors, parade committees, veteran's organizations and other community groups.

**Historian - Appointed, Projects Officer**

The Historian is primarily responsible for the historical records of the detachment. He/she may solicit photography, video, biographical sketches and other items of value that tell the detachment's history. They can develop detachment year books and to collect and store important detachment historical items.

**Newsletter Editor - Appointed, Projects Officer**

The Newsletter Editor is to prepare the newsletter on a monthly basis about what is going on in the detachment. The Editor should solicit articles from officers and members and include the calendar of events for the detachment. The newsletter is an important tool to keep members informed of important topics, veteran news, activities and calendar events.

**Web Sergeant - Appointed, Projects Officer**

The Detachment web site is a powerful recruiting tool so that prospective members can learn more about the Detachment. Local community organizations and leaders can learn more about the Marine Corps League and our commitment to help the local community, veterans and their families. The Web Sergeant shall maintain the upkeep of the detachment website.

**Veterans Administration Volunteer Services (V.A.V.S)/Veterans Service Officer - Appointed, Projects Officer**

The VAVS coordinator's primary goal is to spend time at the VA Medical Center and Hospital on visitation, planning and coordinating events, and soliciting donations of funds needed by occupants of the Medical Center and Hospital. He/she should provide direction to various veteran assistance programs. They will provide assistance for veterans seeking VA disability benefits and/or other VA programs and services.

## Conduct of the Board

As duly elected Officers of the Detachment, your Board of Trustees have a **FIDUCIARY** responsibility to always remember:

- We serve our Members, Associates and Families before all others!
- Each of us gathered here from the past and into the future are VOLUNTEERS.
- Each of us gathered are Marines, FMF Corpsman, FMF Chaplains or the family member of a Marine, FMF Corpsman and FMF Chaplains.
- Our families come first and then our detachment business is second.
- Volunteers by nature will participate in events, programs and assist the League as they feel they can – simply stated, we need to have members who enjoy participating in the events they want to support.
- The purpose of our Detachment is, as defined by our Founder, General John A Lejeune to: “to promote the interests and preserve the traditions of the U. S. Marine Corps; assist fellow Marines, their widows and orphans and participate in various patriotic ceremonies.”
- Our mission is: “to join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service; voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines and former Marines and to their widows and orphans, and by perpetuating the history of the United States Marine Corps through fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines”
- Have some fun while we enjoy being with Marines!

## Organizational Chart

Marine Corps League - National Headquarters									
New England Division	Northeast Division	Mideast Division	Southeast Division	Central Division	Midwest Division	Southern Division	Rocky Mountain Division	Northwest Division	Southwest Division
Maine	New York	West Virginia	Louisiana	Wisconsin	North Dakota	Arkansas	Wyoming	Alaska	Arizona
New Hampshire	Pennsylvania	Virginia	Mississippi	Michigan	South Dakota	Oklahoma	Utah	Washington	Nevada
Vermont	New Jersey	Maryland	Tennessee	Illinois	Minnesota	Texas	Colorado	Oregon	California
Massachusetts		Delaware	Alabama	Indiana	Nebraska		New Mexico	Idaho	Hawaii
Rhode Island		Washington D.C.	Georgia	Kentucky	Iowa			Montana	Okinawa
Connecticut		North Carolina	South Carolina	Ohio	Kansas				
		United Kingdom	Florida		Missouri				

### Chain of Command

(1) Marine Corps League  
National Commandant & Board

(2) Southwest Division  
National Vice Commandant & Board

(3) Department of California  
Dept. Commandant & Board

(4) San Fernando Valley Det. 1277  
Det. Commandant & Board

## Marine Corps League Uniform

*This section is a basic overview, so please refer to the national uniform manual for detailed information of all the uniforms.*

The red Marine Corps League cover is the minimum uniform item worn by members to be considered “in uniform”. Although you will see many of the members wearing only the red cover to meetings, it is highly encouraged to wear the full uniform when possible. Women wear the exact same uniform as the men with the option of trousers or skirts.



Undress Uniform  
Short Sleeve  
Dress Blue Trousers



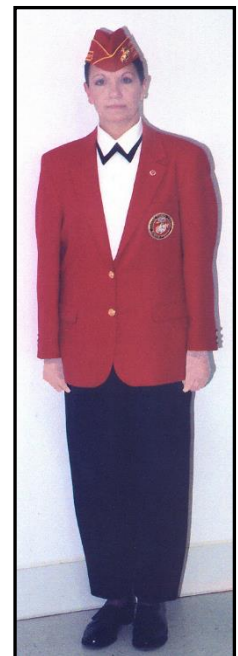
Undress Uniform  
Short Sleeve  
Black Trousers



Undress Uniform  
Long Sleeve  
Dress Blue  
Trousers or Black  
Trousers are worn.



Casual Dress  
Uniform  
Black  
Trousers



Women's  
Casual Dress  
Uniform  
Black Trousers

Black tie and tie clasp are the only additions.

**Marine Corps League Cover**



Red – Detachment cover  
Red/Gold – Department cover  
Gold – Division & National cover



White Cover for National  
Commandant of the  
Marine Corps League

**Women's Style Cover**



Cover for Associate  
members with the MCL  
sunburst cap ornament.



Honorable Chief  
Devil Dog will wear  
a Gold National  
Cover. Upon  
stepping down from  
office, the Black &  
Gold cover signifies  
they are a Past Chief  
Devil Dog

❖ **No other pins, ornaments or ribbons are authorized on the MCL Cover.** The only allowable items are EGA emblem, MCL Sunburst emblem, MODD patch and Cap Strips.

Life or Life Member. Choose **ONE** option. May be embroidered.

Job title Cap Strip.



Detachment Cap Strip will be sewn on or it may be embroidered

Bulldog patch denotes you are member of the Military Of Devil Dogs

---

“Past Commandant” may be embroidered, as this is a lifetime title. It must be small enough, as to be covered by a strip denoting any current office/job title held. Tradition is that the "LIFE MEMBER" strip would be worn above other strips, such as a current officer strip. The detachment name should be placed on the right side of cover, 1/2" up from the bottom of the cover, centered left to right and abbreviated, if need be. The recommended font is **Franklin Gothic Medium Condensed**. Inform the Detachment about having the detachment’s name embroidered on your cover as we would want to establish a standard. Many detachments make it common to spell out the entire detachment name or abbreviate it.

**L.A. WEST VALLEY DET. 1490**

# Guide of placement, lettering and font for MCL cover

## LETTERING:

Lettering should be 3/8" in height with 1/4 spacing between lines. Maximum of 3 lines can be used, all lettering should be in CAPITALS. Bottom line has three options: DETACHMENT or DEPARTMENT or LOCATION (e.g. CITY, STATE or COUNTY, STATE).

## FONT

FRANKLIN GOTHIC MEDIUM CONDENSED

This is a font to be 3/8" in height and all CAPITALS, this font allows the use of longer words and names.

## LIFE:

Can either be in the form of a NAME STRIP or DIRECT EMBROIDERY. If the word LIFE is used it is placed as show. For neatness 1/2" from the rear of the cover and 1/4" down from the braid is recommended



## CENTERING:

Lettering should be centered between rear of the cover and front braid (this would allow for future placement of the MOOD Patch if needed)





**Associate Member**  
collar insignia



American Flag or MODD patch  
1 1/2" down from shoulder seam  
and centered.

MODD Collar



Black leather belt with Marine  
Corps buckle. Associate  
members wear regular gold  
buckle with no emblem.



**Regular  
Member** collar  
insignia

1/2" inside the collar tip. Sunburst emblems  
facing inboard and wings parallel to deck.



MCL patch or Associate patch.  
1 1/2" down from shoulder of seam  
and centered.

DOD Military Ribbons &  
Badges or MCL Ribbons.  
**\*You cannot mix both.\***

**Black trousers** – Regular &  
Associate members can wear.  
**Dress Blue trousers** – Regular  
members wear blood stripe and  
Associate members wear it with  
NO blood stripe



Lapel Pin.  
One additional pin may  
be worn alongside the  
MCL pin.

Casual Dress - White  
formal shirt with standard  
collar. Black tie, tie clasp  
or Marine Corps tie clasp.  
Formal Dress – Tuxedo  
shirt with bow tie. Gold  
cummerbund or gold vest.



Corfam Shoes

Blazer Crest. No crest  
for Associate members.



Black trousers are only  
worn with Casual Dress.

# Undress Uniform

The Undress Uniform is the most commonly worn uniform in the Marine Corps League for functions, events and color guard.

The uniform consists of:

- **Marine Corps League Cover**
  - EGA ornament (Regular members)
  - Sunburst ornament (Associate members)
  - MODD Patch on right side (Only for MODD members)
- **White Aviator Shirt** with white t-shirt worn underneath
  - Long Sleeve
  - Short Sleeve
- **Sleeve Patches** (patches are centered on crease 1½” down from shoulder seam)
  - Left Shoulder - MCL Patch (Regular Members)
  - Left Shoulder - MCL Associate Patch (Associate Members)
  - Right Shoulder – Forward American Flag Patch
  - Right Shoulder – MODD Patch (Only for MODD members)
- **Collar Devices**
  - MCL Sunburst Collar Ornaments (Regular members)
  - MCL Collar Ornaments (Associate members)
- **Black Tie & Tie Clasp** worn with long sleeve aviator shirt
- **Trousers** (2 options)
  - Black slack trousers
  - Dress Blue trousers with red NCO blood stripe (Regular Members)
  - Dress Blue trousers without red NCO blood stripe (Associate Members)
- **Belt**
  - Web belt worn with Dress Blue trousers
  - Black leather belt with Marine Corps belt buckle worn with black slacks (Regular Members)
  - Black leather belt with gold belt buckle worn with black slacks (Associates members)
- **Shoes**
  - Corfam Dress shoes with black dress socks
- **Ribbons**
  - DOD or MCL ribbons (Ribbons can't be mixed)
  - USMC badges (worn with DOD ribbons)
  - Rifle/Pistol badges (worn with DOD ribbons)
- **MODD** (Only for MODD members)
  - Dog collar based on degree (Pup, Devil Dog, Pedigreed Devil Dog)
- **Color Guard**
  - Marine Corps White Duty Belt with NCO waist plate (Not to be mistaken for Dress Blues white belt). Associate members wear plain waist plate.

## Marine Corps League Ribbons

Shown in order of Precedence



Distinguished Citizen Gold



Distinguished Citizen Silver



Distinguished Citizen Bronze



Distinguished Service Bronze



National Marine of the Year



Division Marine of the Year



Department Marine of the Year



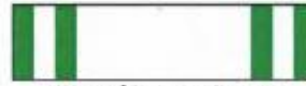
Detachment Marine of the Year



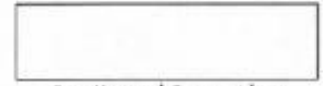
National Recruiter Gold



National Recruiter Silver



National Recruiter Bronze



Past National Commandant



National Staff Elected Silver



National Staff Appointed Bronze



Department Commandant



Department Staff Elected Silver



Department Staff  
Appointed Bronze



Department Recruiter Silver



Detachment Commandant



Detachment Staff Elected Silver



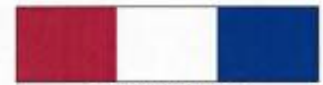
Detachment Staff  
Appointed Bronze



Detachment Recruiter Bronze



Community Service



Board of Trustees  
Commendation—V. Fisher



National Meritorious  
Unit of Commendation



Department Meritorious  
Unit Commendation



Individual Meritorious  
Commendation



Ceremonial Guard Ribbon



Kennel Dog of the Year



Chief Devil Dog  
Individual Commendation



Pack Dog of the Year



Pack Leader  
Commendation—Individual



Pound Dog of the Year



Pound Keeper  
Commendation—Individual



Past Chief Devil Dog



Pack Leader



Pound Keeper



Marine Corps League Membership

## **Detachment Awards**

**Note:** These are only a few awards that can be presented by the detachment. Department and National awards are not part of this list. The detachment Awards Committee may custom create awards and align them to detachment level Marine Corps League ribbons/medals. [Awards reflect the appreciation and gratitude in order to recognize the work and dedication done by the Regular and Associate members.](#)

### **Detachment Marine of the Year**

This award recognizes a Detachment regular member who has contributed to Detachment objectives and programs, who has set an example for all members to emulate, and whose efforts have significantly enhanced the ideals set forth as a Marine. This award consists of the red Detachment of the Year collar medallion and red ribbon with bronze FMF device. An engraved plaque, which reads: "Presented for Extraordinary Service Above and Beyond the Call of Duty."

### **Associate of the Year**

This award recognizes the Detachment Associate member who has contributed to Detachment objectives and programs, who has set an example for all associate members to emulate, and whose efforts have significantly enhanced the ideals set forth as an associate. This award consists of the Individual Meritorious Commendation ribbon. An engraved plaque, which reads: "Presented for Extraordinary Service Above and Beyond the Call of Duty."

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

This award recognizes those Detachment members that have worked through the years for the good of the Detachment. It further recognizes the Detachment member who has had a significant positive impact on the Detachment, its programs and members; and who has consistently, through the years, made selfless efforts beyond expectations. This selection is made by the Awards Committee with approval of the Board. The award consists of the Distinguished Citizen Bronze ribbon/medal and engraved plaque.

### **Distinguished Service Award**

This award is made to community citizens and Detachment members who have had a significant positive impact on the membership and programs. Through selfless efforts beyond expectations have risen above and beyond the common need to help others in need, and promoted values of service, citizenship and patriotism. The award consists of the Distinguished Service Bronze ribbon/medal and engraved plaque.

### **Commandant's Recognition Award**

This award is presented to Detachment members who have exemplified themselves within the detachment; and who have contributed through time and effort to the full objectives of the detachment above and beyond expectations. The selection is made by the Detachment Commandant with approval of the Board. The award consists of the Individual Meritorious Commendation ribbon and certificate.

### **Community Service**

To be awarded to a member who in the opinion of the awarding Commandant has exemplified him or herself in their communities and/or National, including VAVS, but not necessarily both, helping all who they have come in contact with. This award consists of the Community Service ribbon and certificate.

### **Marine Corps League Medal (Membership)**

To be worn by a member of the Marine Corps League who is a member in good standing. A bronze star may be worn for each period of five (5) years of continuous membership and there has not been a break in membership service. Members are eligible as soon as they are initiated.

### **Detachment Recruiter(s) of the Year**

Awarded to Detachment Recruiter(s) who have recruited the most members to join the detachment. Each recipient shall also be presented a Certificate of Appreciation (God, Country and Corps). It should be noted that any member who has recruited **five or more** members should have their name submitted to Department & National to compete for those elevated awards. This award consists of the Detachment Recruiter Bronze ribbon/medal and certificate.

### **Ceremonial Guard Ribbon**

This award is recommended and presented by the Color Guard Commander for members who have served in a Guard, Funeral/Honor Detail, Rifle Detail or Marching Squad. Just walking or riding on a float in a parade does not qualify unless it is part of a specific detail or program such as a Marching Unit. Must participate in 10 events in a year to receive this award. A bronze star will be awarded for subsequent awards. This Award is retroactive to 1 January 2010 for all individuals who have met the qualifications for the Award. This award consists of the Ceremonial Guard Ribbon

### **Life Membership**

It is customary for those members who pay a life membership to be recognized for their commitment to the detachment. They shall be recognized with gold life membership card, life membership lapel pin and a life membership certificate.

### **Certificates of Appreciation and Recognition**

Certificates recognizes members, outside organizations, and non-members for acts deserving appreciation and recognition for their help to the detachment or the community.

*NOTE: For each additional medal award, a bronze star will be worn. A silver star will be worn in place of five (5) bronze stars and a gold star will be worn in place of five (5) silver stars unless otherwise noted. The exceptions are: Distinguished Citizens Medal - Gold; Distinguished Citizens Medal - Silver; Distinguished Citizens Medal - Bronze; and Distinguished Service Medal. On each of the aforementioned Distinguished Service Medals a 5/16" gold star will be worn to indicate additional awards and a 5/16" silver star will be worn in place of five (5) gold stars.*



Marine Corps League ribbons



Marine of the Year medallion is worn with the Casual Dress Uniform (Red Blazer)

## The Marines' Hymn

From the halls of Montezuma, to the shores of Tripoli,  
We fight our country's battles in the air, on land and sea.  
First to fight for right and freedom, and to keep our honor clean;  
We are proud to claim the title of United States Marine.

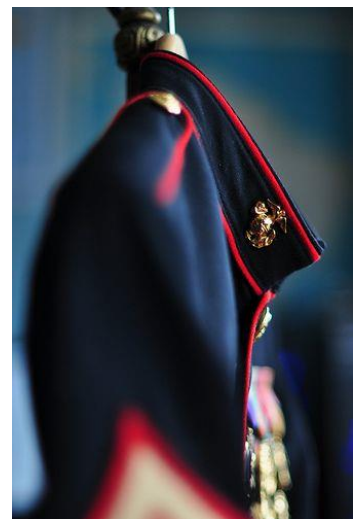
Our Flag's unfurled to every breeze from dawn to setting sun.  
We have fought in every clime and place, where we could take a gun.  
In the snow of far off northern lands and in sunny tropic scenes,  
You will find us always on the job, the United States Marines.

Here's health to you and to our Corps, which we are proud to serve.  
In many a strife we've fought for life and never lost our nerve.  
If the Army and the Navy ever look on heaven's scenes, they will find  
the streets are guarded by United States Marines.

---

## Once a Marine always a Marine

Long after the uniform has been laid aside, the last order has been given, the final salute returned, the last handshake shared, and the occasional tear brushed away by a determined hand. Long after that, it still runs in your veins, lives on in your mind, and dominates your will. Long after that you feel the call, the esprit that can only be shared among brothers. Among individuals bonded together by the truest of ideals. "Once a Marine always a Marine"





### **Hospital Corpsman's Pledge**

I solemnly pledge myself before god and these witnesses to practice faithfully all of my duties as a member of the Hospital Corps. I hold the care of the sick and injured to be a privilege and sacred trust and will assist the Medical Officer with loyalty and honesty. I will not knowingly permit harm to come to any patient. I will hold all personal matters pertaining to the private lives of patients in strict confidence. I dedicate my heart, mind, and strength to the work before me. I shall do all within my power to show in myself an example of all that is honorable and good throughout my naval career.



### **I'm the one called "Doc"**

I shall not walk in your footsteps, but I will walk by your side.  
I shall not walk in your image; I've earned my own title of pride.  
We've answered the call together, on sea and foreign land.  
When the cry for help was given, I've been there right at hand.  
Whether I am on the ocean, or in the jungle wearing greens,  
Giving aid to my fellow man, be it Sailors or Marines.  
So the next time you see a corpsman, and you think of calling him "squid",  
think of the job he's doing, as those before him did.  
And if you ever have to go out there, and your life is on the block,  
Look at the one right next to you... I'm the one called "Doc".

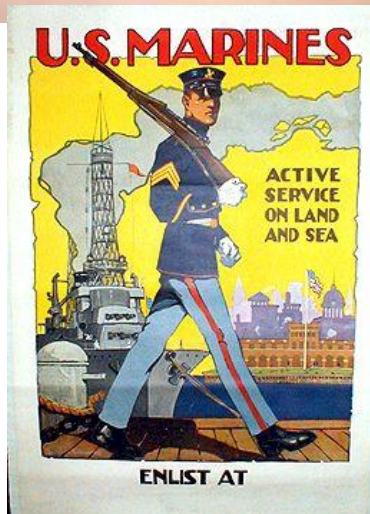
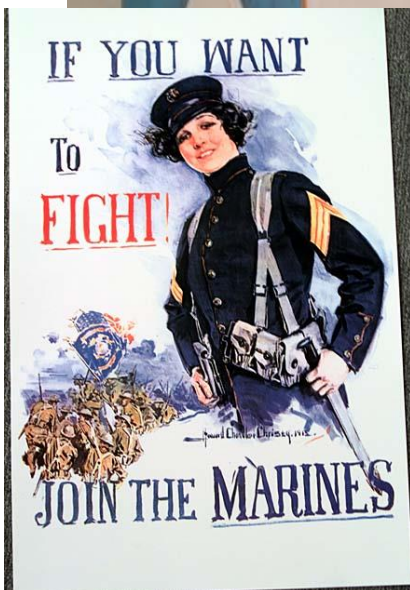
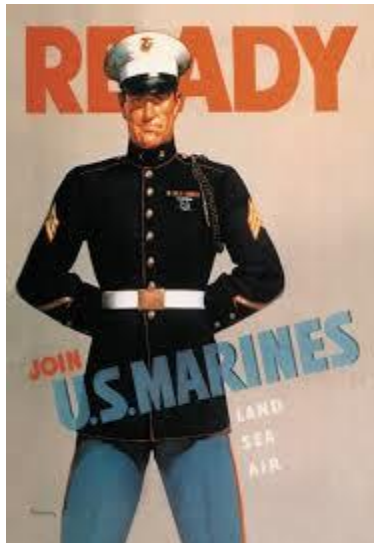




- Without the members, there is no detachment.
- The detachment supports the community, active duty, reserve component and their families and this is only possible when our members volunteer.
- The more the detachment grows, the better we can serve the community.

### 3 Things you are encouraged to do:

1. Attend monthly detachment meetings.
2. Volunteer.
3. Recruit new members.



Booklet created by Jorge Silva.