



"The Fire Watch"

A Jacksonville Detachment 059 Newsletter
Marine Corps League



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Charlie Myers Commandant	Loren Gay Sr. Vice Commandant	Dennis Depriest Jr. Vice Commandant	Dayton Warfle JAG/Paymaster	Lisa Hiering Adjutant	Cliff Redfield Chaplain	Barbara Grissom Sgt. at Arms	Mike Brynildsen PAO/Photo
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10 NOVEMBER 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

If there were a watchword for 2020, the shortlist would certainly include ‘change,’ ‘uncertainty,’ and ‘adaptation.’ This new dynamic and uncertain environment has impacted how we recruit and train Marines, deploy aboard ship, and even how we honor our Corps’ hallowed traditions. But adapting to change and uncertainty is nothing new for Marines. It is what we have done for 245 years and what is expected of us as the Nation’s force-in readiness. Where others see challenges, Marines see opportunities. We don’t take a knee. We will always be ready to answer the nation’s call, no matter the crisis.

In a world of seemingly relentless change and uncertainty, some things remain constant—our core values: Honor, Courage, and Commitment. These values are at the very heart of our ability to be, “most ready when the Nation is least ready.” It’s honor that gives us an uncompromising sense of personal integrity and accountability; courage that allows us to face any circumstance with an ironclad resolve to do what’s right; and commitment that binds us together as a family and drives us toward excellence. And while our core values might never change, the way we give life to them requires constant vigilance. This year’s national conversations about race remind us that we must all do better to embody our service’s values.

Commemorating the 245th birthday of our Corps offers us a chance to reflect on our history. We who serve today stand upon the shoulders of giants. While this year’s many challenges are significant and unique, they are not unprecedented, and it is important to remember that our Nation and Corps have endured difficult times in our past. This year, for example, marks the 75th anniversary of brutal battles in the Pacific; when soldiers of the sea defined the term “uncommon valor” on the black sands of Iwo Jima; the 70th anniversary of bitter fighting at Inchon and Chosin Reservoir; 55 years since Marines landed at Da Nang; and a decade since our struggle with the Taliban in the Helmand River Valley. We remember the service and sacrifice of all Marines, and honor the legacy passed down through generations. Our continuing obligation is to honor their legacy by making meaningful contributions to what they started.

From the past, we draw strength, pride, and a responsibility to carry on the warfighting heritage our predecessors built. We must also recognize our tradition of continuous adaptation—one that should inspire our current force modernization and innovation efforts. As has been the case in the past, today’s threats require us to fight as a cohesive team, and our ability to succeed will depend on the Honor, Courage, and Commitment of each individual Marine. From recruiting individuals of great intelligence, strength, spirit, and diversity, to evolving how we train, educate, and mentor Marines throughout their careers, we remain dedicated to developing the world’s finest warfighters, guided by our core values.

In a year of significant change and uncertainty, I am reminded of the words of American novelist, John Dos Passos, “In times of change and danger when there is a quicksand of fear under men’s reasoning, a sense of continuity with generations gone before can stretch like a lifeline across the scary present...” Never forget, what you do today becomes the foundation for the generations of Marines that will follow. There is no challenge we cannot overcome, together, by holding fast to our core values. Happy 245th Birthday Marines.



Semper Fidelis,
DAVID H. BERGER
D.H. Berger
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps



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Happy Birthday Marines!

**Thursday – November 5th
Detachment General Meeting
5-Star Veterans Center**



We kept with our Detachment's tradition of celebrating our Corps' Birthday with the reading of the CMC's Birthday Message by Past Det. Cmdt. John Liesman and the slicing of a birthday cake, the Pandemic did not prevail.

As always, the first slice of the birthday cake was taken by the Senior Marine present Past Det. Chaplain James Thomas. In turn the slice was then relayed to the Junior Marine present Randy Brynildsen.

Special kudos go out to Judy Hession for the ingenious idea of molding cup cakes in the form of a cake, and thereby all could "have their cake and eat it too".



Welcome Aboard Chip!

**Thursday – November 5th
Detachment General Meeting
5-Star Veterans Center**



Another fine Marine has selected our Detachment to become a member of the Marine Corps League. Please join us in a hardy "Welcome Aboard" to our newest member: Charles "Chip" Strader.



Emergency Text Blast!



Are you on board? At the November meeting we passed around our Detachment Roster for membership cell numbers to be included in our "Emergency Text Blast" proving you with emergency news and schedule changes. We are revising our Membership Roster to identify cell numbers.

It would be unfortunate on your part if you showed up at an event that has a last-minute change or has even been cancelled. So, lets hear from you - what is your cell number?

Jack and Sheila Caulkins:

This Buds for you!

The latest news from Sheila and Jack is that they are definitely on the slow road to recovery.

Sheila and Jack want to express their sincere appreciation for the Detachment's concerns and well wishes – plus the "Get Well" bucket of cookies sent on behalf of the Detachment. Jack said that he could use the additional 17 pounds.



MOTIVATION

Good Citizenship Award

**Tuesday – November 3rd
BSA Troop 321 Meeting
Mandarin Presbyterian Church**



Eagle Scout Cole Kiser

Congratulations to Eagle Scout Cole Kiser for achieving the highest rank from the Boy Scouts of America.

Cole is a dual-enrollment student at Creekside High School and Saint Johns River State College. He will graduate with his AA degree in May 2021 and his high school diploma in June 2021.

Eagle Scout Cole runs track for Creekside High School and is in his 3rd year as a Best Buddy. He currently plans to attend Florida State University in the Fall of 2021.

Accomplishments:

- Eagle Scout with 7 palms
- 55 Merit Badges
- STEM Nova Award
- Paul Bunyan Award
- National Outdoor Camping-Conservation
- World Conservation Award
- Graduate National Youth Leadership Training ("NYLT") 2018 and taught at NYLT 2019
- Accumulated over 300 volunteer hours in high school



JAX Veterans Day Parade

**Wednesday – November 11th
Downtown Jacksonville**

This year's City of Jacksonville's Veterans Day Parade was somewhat affected by the Pandemic. The parade route was shortened with a start and finish at the Prime Osborn Center. The route made a loop at the former Jacksonville Landing Circle then a couple of blocks north with a return to the finish.

The weather was dry but not the participants. For those who participated, pride was streaming from within and so was the perspiration – it felt like you could cut the air with a k bar.

JAG Dayton Warfle came through with the Blount Island USMC vehicle again, and there was plenty of room on board. Detachment members where few this year, but that was understandable due to the COVID-19 situation.

Jr. Past Commandant Jerry Jesonek was our lead vehicle with his Willy Jeep and a welcome sight.

The Atlantic Coast Young Marines ("ACYM") where there in full force with a contingent serving as our lead Color Guard – *in step all of the way.*

Major Alan Crouch, MCJROTC stopped by with a detachment from Ribault High School Marine Jr. ROTC and gave us a sound off of ooraah! for our donation in support of their program.



Detachment Bumper Sticker

**Thursday – November 5th
Detachment General Meeting
5 Star Veterans Center**



In SVC Loren Gay's ongoing motivation to promote our Detachment, Loren proposed a Detachment Bumper Sticker. All on hand approved the design with an expenditure up to \$50. Loren will be coordinating with Cmdt. Charlie on an assessment of the size and the final order.



Commandant's Corner

Marines and Associate Members,

First and foremost, let me say Happy Birthday to all of our Marines. A special oorah goes out to our members who have braved the pandemic to attend meetings and events – but please be cautious.

The year 2020 has presented enormous challenges to maintain Detachment operations and to stay the course with the Marine Corps League's mission. It is completely understandable with respect to personal concerns about not being comfortable with gatherings and we are doing what we can to keep the lines of communication open.

Now that the holiday season is just about here, we all have personal decisions to make with our families – do we just roll the dice and flirt with the edge of the Pandemic and continue with family traditions; or do we write off the year 2020 for this one gathering and look to a brighter year 2021 for many more.

Please let common sense be your guide this Thanksgiving with your decision to travel or to remain at home.

From my family to you and yours, we wish you a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving!



Always – at your service
Semper Fi!
Cmdt. Charlie
(904) 274-6333

"One member can make a difference, but the Detachment can make it happen!"



Fundraisers

Casualty report has our main Fundraising Crew receiving a broadside from the Pandemic (Jack & Sheila Caulkins are recovering) – time to call in the reserves!

Our Event Coordinator, SVC Loren Gay has taken on the lead to establish a "plan B" with a backup crew to staff our display table – now this is where you come in – we need volunteers!

Contact SVC Loren Gay
svc@mcljacksonville.org
or the Detachment hotline:
904-274-6333

Toys for Tots 2020



Toys for Tots ("TFT") Liaison PAO Mike Brynildsen has been coordinating Detachment efforts to support 4th Amphibious Assault Battalion B Company's TFT program again this year.

No final plan has been established with SSgt. Justin Cabrera, TFT Coordinator, for toy pick up and distribution. We understand from the TFT website that the deadline for toy pick up is scheduled for December 9th. The cut-off for Organization Registration was November 7th.

As soon as more information becomes available, we will post a Detachment Bulletin with the details.

https://jacksonville-fl.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.aspx?nPageID=100&nPreviewInd

Congrats Grandma Lisa!

It gives us great pleasure to announce the arrival of Nathaniel Benjamin Vance.

Lisa's daughter gave birth to 10lbs. 2oz., 21 3/4" Nathaniel on November 4th – whew! All went well and Grandma says it all in her smile.

Please join us in wishing Nathaniel a 'Happy Birthday.'



Test your Brain!

Been cooped up too long? Can't get to the Gym? Spandex a little snug? Then exercise your brain.

12 months in a year.
7 months have 31 days.
How many months have 28 days?

Answer: next month
Last month's answer:
"A Towel!"



When I say, "the other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.



Sgt. Chuckles



F.Y.I

For your Health: For your best health, consider the water that you consume. Tap water can contain, Aluminum, Copper, Iron, Lead, Pesticides, Herbicides and much more - look it up, your organs are affected. The good news is that you have choices, so make the best one for your good health.

Money Tree: Check your attic for vintage Rock Band T-shirts, they are worth a lot of money. Some T-shirts could be over \$2,000, even in the very used condition. You may as well sell it yourself because some day someone else will.

Did You Know: Some experts say that Vitamins do not work and may be bad for you - research it. I strongly recommend a plant-based smoothie to receive the maximum benefits the fruits, veggies and spices have to offer. Consuming such items have more benefits than can be listed.

Loren Gay, SVC

Florida Specialty License Plate



https://www.mcl dof.org/specialty-plates

Let Us Pray



Philippians. 4:6-7

Cliff Redfield Chaplain

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. "May God keep us safe from the virus, so we can once again share and enjoy each other's company at our regular meetings.

Please keep the following members and their families in your prayers:

- Jack and Sheila Caulkins
Martin Lussier
Nancy Parker
Edwin Verrill
Randy Brynildsen
Matt Touchton

Thank you, Lord, for what you are about to do. Amen.

Anyone knowing of a member or their family member that is ill or in distress, please contact:

Chaplain Cliff Redfield (904) 527-8177
or the Detachment (904) 274-6333



*Due to the Pandemic: Schedule is subject to change

- December 3rd Detachment General Meeting
December 5th - 6th Fundraiser: JAX Fairgrounds
December 9th Deadline for TFT Pickup
December 19th Wreaths Across America (Virtual Event)
January 7th Detachment General Meeting
January 23rd - 24th Fundraiser: JAX Fairgrounds
January 30th - 31st Fundraiser: JAX Ice & Sportsplex

*Be sure to visit our web Calendar of Events for more

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special **THANK YOU** to our sponsors

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Jack & Sheila Caulkins
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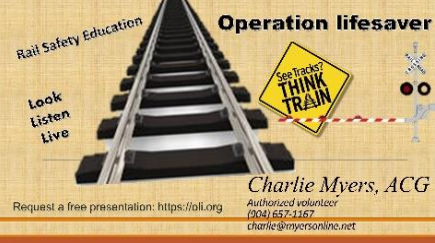
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