

# **Marine Corps League**

## **Department of North Carolina**



## **Department Convention Minutes**

### **9 – 11 June 2023**

Hosted by: Onslow Detachment 262

Host Commandant: Raymond Randall

Presided by: Commandant Ric Ledford  
Department of North Carolina  
Marine Corps League

Meeting start time: 0830

Meeting Location: Hilton Garden Inn – Jacksonville

Host Contact: Raymond Randall

Contact Phone Number: 910-691-2864

Contact Email: [randall5258@hotmail.com](mailto:randall5258@hotmail.com)

**A. Colors formation 0750 – (Young Marines)**

**B. Training Module – Transmittals - 0805 to 0825**

1. Paymaster training – Scott Shermeyer went through the point from website.

[http://ncmcl.org/forms/2\\_Paymaster%20Training%20Session.pdf](http://ncmcl.org/forms/2_Paymaster%20Training%20Session.pdf)

**C. Opening Remarks by Dept. Commandant Ric Ledford 0833**

1. Welcome all members and guests to the DoNC's 2023 Convention & special thanks to Onslow Detachment for organizing it.
2. This meeting is dedicated in the memory of all North Carolina Marine Corps League Members who answered the final call over the past year.
3. Colors presented by the Camp Lejuene JRoTC
4. Pledge of Allegiance – Sgt-at-Arms – Steve Tracy
5. Open Bible and Invocation – Chaplain Lisa Ciesielski
6. Presentation of Color Guard COA's
  - a) Andrew Driscoll
  - b) Heaven Ubongen
  - c) Hope Houghton
  - d) Dylan Fay
  - e) 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt Laurevius Washington

**D. Recognition of other Guests by the Host Detachment**

1. Welcome remarks & thanks from the Host Detachment Commandant Raymond Randall.
2. Jacksonville Mayor Sammy Phillips – Logan Sosa, city councilman-
  - a) Presented and read proclamation



3. Ricky Johnson - peer support counselor
  - a) Joined the Marine Corps for five years.
  - b) He was also a convicted felon for many items, substance abuse.
  - c) His son committed suicide at 18 years old.
  - d) He got his help from a rescue mission. He moved to Asheville.
  - e) He is NC certified as a Peer Support Specialist with Veteran Stamp.
  - f) He has since become a motivated speaker around the country.
  - g) <https://www.rickyjohnsonjr.com/>
4. Megan Boggs - USO, Coastal Carolina contact
  - a) They just moved into the new facility on Camp Lejeune.
  - b) 178,000 veterans / family members last year.
  - c) Snack packs are given out at the airport. Individually wrapped items are always welcome.
  - d) They provide things to the guys in the field during training.

- e) USO has 3 paid employees for North Carolina. Volunteers are important.
- f) They are serving approximately 10,000 people per month.
- g) [www.Volunteers.USO.org](http://www.Volunteers.USO.org) to sign up.

**E. Recognition of National Officers**

- 1. National Marine 4 Life Liaison – Mark Munger & David Ossian
- 2. National Historian – Greg Ciesielski
- 3. Mideast Division Vice Commandant & M.O.D.D Deputy Police Dog – Rick Thomason
- 4. M.O.D.D Senior Vice Chief Devil Dog & MED Sgt at Arms – Jeffrey Jones
- 5. M.O.D.D Dog Trainer – Lisa Ciesielski
- 6. MED MODD - Craig Reeling
- 7. National Girl Scout Committee Chair of the MCLA – Karen Barton
- 8. Mideast Division Web Sergeant – Kenny Joyner
- 9. NC MODD Pack Leader – Keith Shearin
- 10. Ask all past National and Division officers to stand and be recognized.

**F. Recognition of the Department Marine/Associate of the Year**

- 1. 2022 Department Marine of the Year – Dennis Fusco
- 2. 2022 Department Associate of the Year – Jim Henderson
- 3. Ask all past MOY & WOY Recipients to stand and be recognized

**G. Recognition of Past Department Commandants**

- 1. Jr. Past Department Commandant Rick Thomason
- 2. Ask all the Past Department Commandants to stand and be recognized.

**H. Chapel of Four Chaplains Presentation**

- 1. Jefferson Ortiz – Life Saving Award – USMC First Sergeant (deployed)
- 2. Dillion Cornett – Life Saving Award - Hickory Police
- 3. Patrick White – Life Saving Award – Raleigh Police (posthumously)
- 4. [www.fourchaplains.org](http://www.fourchaplains.org)

**I. Call for Sgt at Arms to declare a 15-minute recess to excuse any guests, Honor Guard or non-members that may need to leave at this time**

- 1. Chaplain to close Bible

2. Sgt-at-Arms to announce that the meeting will reconvene at \_0930\_\_

**Meeting called to order 0931**

**J. Roll Call of Department Officers**

(By the Adjutant– “When called, each Officer shall rise and salute the Commandant.”)

1. Commandant – Ric Ledford
2. Sr. Vice Commandant – David Anderson
3. Jr. Vice Commandant – Reggie Sawyer Jr
4. Judge Advocate – Bill Brown
5. Jr. Past Commandant – Rick Thomason
6. Chief of Staff – AJ Pitts
7. Chaplain – Lisa Ciesielski
8. Assistant Chaplain – Marilyn Bower
9. Sgt. at Arms – Steve Tracy
10. Assistant Sgt. at Arms – Jim Penderson
11. Paymaster – Scott Shermeyer
12. Adjutant – Laura Hamilton
13. Young Marines Service Officer – Jonathan Henderson (absent)
14. Toys For Tots Coordinator– Kevin Ashton
15. VAVS Service Officer – Al Pasquale
16. Legislative Officer – Tom Bates (absent)
17. Compliance Officer – Phil Randall (absent)
18. Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski
19. Eagle Scout Coordinator – Charles Minton (absent)
20. Marine For Life Liaison – Mark Munger
21. Web Sergeant – Kenny Joyner
22. Public Relations – Marilyn Bower
23. Historian - Greg Ciesielski
24. Chapel of Four Chaplains – Robert Hare

**K. District Vice Commandants**

(By the Adjutant – “When called, each DVC shall rise and salute the Commandant.”)

1. NC West DVC's
  - a) West District – Denver Grant
  - b) Northwest District – Tony Summers (absent)
  - c) Midwest District – Hank Kaczmarek (absent)
  - d) Northcentral District –Mike Clark
  - e) Central District – John Dilday
  - f) Southcentral – Denny Mathias
2. NC East DVC's
  - a) North District – James Mitchell
  - b) Northeast District – Leotha Forte
  - c) South District – Howard Boyd
  - d) Southeast District – Greg Ciesielski
  - e) East District – Greg Ciesielski

**L. Roll Call of Detachments**

*(By the Adjutant – “Per our Department Bylaws, The quorum for the Department Convention shall consist of at least two (2) of the five (5) Department Elected Officer Board of Trustee members and one Delegate from at least 40% of the Department’s active Detachments in attendance. As your Detachment is called, a Delegate shall rise, salute the Commandant, state they are a Delegate then state the number of members present.”*

1. John V. Berg Detachment #257 (Kinston) (absent)
2. Greater Greensboro Detachment #260 (Greensboro)
3. Onslow County Detachment #262 (Jacksonville)
4. Tar Heel Detachment #733 (Raleigh)
5. Charlotte Detachment #750 (Charlotte)
6. Blue Ridge Detachment #848 (Asheville)
7. PFC Charles D. Hare Detachment #914 (Monroe) (absent)
8. Shawn Knisley Detachment #983 (Fayetteville)
9. Sand Hills Area Detachment #1001 (Aberdeen)
10. Paul Ray Purgason Detachment #1005 (Shallotte)
11. Cherokee County Detachment #1011 (Murphy)
12. Stanly County Detachment #1021 (Albemarle) (absent)
13. Carolina Borders Detachment #1036 (Calabash) (absent)
14. Cherry Point Detachment #1067 (Havelock)
15. Cape Fear Detachment #1070 (Wilmington) (absent)
16. Percy John Fulton Detachment #1075 (Winston-Salem)
17. Gen. A Hal Turnage Detachment #1096 (Salisbury) (absent)

18. Iredell County Detachment #1097 (Troutman)
19. Gen. Raymond G. Davis Detachment #1162 (Gastonia)
20. Catawba Valley Detachment #1163 (Hickory) (absent)
21. NC Foothills Detachment #1164 (Shelby)
22. Cpl. Johnny A. Williamson Detachment #1165 (Asheboro) (absent)
23. Cabarrus Detachment #1175 (Concord)
24. Sgt WE Plueddemann Detachment #1186 (Greenville)
25. Williams / Canter Detachment #1187 (North Wilkesboro)
26. PFC. Terry C. Smith Detachment #1193 (High Point) (absent)
27. Table Rock Detachment #1197 (Morganton) (absent)
28. LCpl. Alan D. Lam Detachment #1209 (Burlington)
29. Cpl. Chris S. Ebert Detachment #1221 (Spindale) (absent)
30. Sanford Detachment #1223 (Sanford)
31. PFC. Jerry L. McKinney Detachment #1232 (Wentworth) (absent)
32. Carry-On Detachment #1236 (Clayton)
33. PFC. Bruce Larson Detachment #1242 (Huntersville)
34. Richmond Leathernecks Detachment #1252 (Rockingham) (absent)
35. Air, Land, NC Detachment #1257 (Wake Forest)
36. Cpl. Suzi Sannes Detachment #1262 (Rocky Mount)
37. Outer Banks Detachment #1264 (Kitty Hawk) (absent)
38. Mt. Mitchell Detachment #1266 (Spruce Pines) (absent)
39. Gold Leaf Detachment #1276 (Wilson)
40. Walter Frank Osborne Jr. Detachment #1298 (Sparta) (absent)
41. Mountaineer Detachment #1320 (Watauga) (absent)
42. Hampstead Detachment #1321 (Pender)
43. Surry County Detachment #1322 (Surry)
44. Crossed Rifles Detachment #1346 (Harnett) (absent)
45. Waynesborough Detachment #1350 (Wayne) (absent)
46. High Country Detachment #1389 (Ashe) (absent)
47. Swansboro Detachment #1407 (Swansboro)
48. Oriental Dragon Detachment #1413 (Oriental)
49. Asheville Detachment #1417 (Asheville)
50. RDU Detachment #1482 (Durham)

### **M. Adjutant's Report**

(“The minutes from the Spring Membership meeting are 27 pages long. These are available for downloading from the Department Website. In the interest of time, I would like to request waiving the reading of the minutes and will gladly accept any corrections you may have concerning them.”)

1. The most current version of the minutes is posted on the website. There was one DVC report added.
2. Rosters get sent to the DVCs and the Detachment Commandants. If you do not get yours, please go through the DVC. There are usually multiple attachments in addition to the rosters themselves.
3. If you would like to receive emails from me directly, besides through your detachment commandant or adjutant, please get me your Name, Email, Detachment #, and Phone # so I can add you to my email group.
4. If you are not getting my emails please check your spam filter and make sure the addresses are in your contact list to come through. The email address is doncmcla@gmail.com .
5. Please make sure a copy of your latest ROI is sent to the Adjutant as well as the Paymaster (who gets the original signed hardcopy).
6. An Excel spreadsheet titled “ DoNC Quick Reference 2023 05 25” has been sent out to all detachments. Please make sure this is shared with all of your detachment members. It will be updated on occasion with a new dated version to be sent out.
7. It is imperative that the Detachment Commandant and Paymaster have emails. There is some data which is only sent to them.
8. If you make any detachment meeting change or position personnel change, please forward an updated ROI.
9. I am looking for a person who is willing to take on the position of Department Adjutant. If you have organizational skills, you can be a candidate. Let's talk!

***Commandant Ledford, asks for a motion to waive reading and approval of the minutes***

Jeffery Jones / Greg Ciesielski to accept as posted. Approved by members present.



**N. Chaplain's Report – Lisa Ciesielski**

1. Report of any member or member's family known to be sick or in distress.
2. Report of any deceased MCL member within the last quarter.
  - a) David Sannes of the Cpl. Suzi Sannes Det 1262 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/2/2023
  - b) Jerry Jacobus of the Iredell County Det 1097 and Bruce Larson Det 1242 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/24/2023
  - c) Anthony 'Bud' Molnar of the Willams/Canter 1187 Det answered his final earthly roll call on 3/8/2023
  - d) William P Rohleder of the Richmond Leathernecks Det 1252 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/16/2023
  - e) Hal M. Stuart of the Walter F Osborne Jr Det 1298 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/24/2023
  - f) Bill R Dover of the Gen Allen Hal Turnage Det 1096 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/30/2023
  - g) Felipe A Cantu of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 11/18/2020
  - h) Ernest L Guthrie Jr. of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 1/20/2012
  - i) Robert L Hill of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/9/2017
  - j) Charles Norwood Jr. of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 9/1/2020
  - k) Albert C Owens of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/1/2019
  - l) Edward J Race of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 11/1/2014
  - m) Norman Stevenson of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/22/2008
  - n) Cecil L Tripp of the John V Berg Det 257 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/4/2021
  - o) Morris J Hall of the Paul Ray Purgason Det 1005 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/1/2023

- p) C Bryan Pugh Associate Member of the Walter F Osborne Jr Det1298 answered his final earthly roll call on 3/28/2023
- q) Wiley E Helms of the Stanly County Det 1021 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/18/2023.
- r) Daniel S. Morris of the Hampstead Det 1321 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/25/2023
- s) Elmer E Hodges of the Hampstead Det 1321 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/8/2022
- t) Alma McClune of the Carolina Borders Det 1036 answered her final earthly roll call on 11/9/2022
- u) James Ralph Hart J. of the Blue Ridge Det 848 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/14/2023
- v) Kevin Patrick Routledge of the Blue Ridge Det 848 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/9/2023
- w) John M. VanTassell of the Blue Ridge Det 848 answered his final earthly roll call on 4/7/2023
- x) James D. Berardi of the Cpl Suzi Sannes Det 1262 answered his final earthly roll call on 1/6/2023
- y) Thomas W. Taylor of the Cpl. Suzi Sannes Det 1262 answered his final earthly roll call on 8/21/2021
- z) Mary K. Dixon of the Alan D. Lam Det 1209 answered her final earthly roll call on 5/30/2023
- aa) James J Cuff Jr. of the Sanford Det 1223 answered his final earthly roll call on 5/24/2023

3. Please pause for a moment of silence for our fallen Marines.

**O. Paymaster's Report – Scott Shermeyer**

- 1. Fiscal year ended May 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - a) End of fiscal year is a stopping point.
  - b) The Budget is a planning tool – a guide line.
- 2. Audit done last night.
  - a) One of the issues found was not receiving receipts as a trend.
  - b) He had to reconcile back to 2017.
  - c) The team did an exceptional job.
- 3. Gave current financial update (a PowerPoint presentation was shown)

- a) PLM monies are not put into the budget for use during the same year they are received. They are held for one year.
  - b) The checks for Toys For Tots and Young Marines will need to be clarified as to whom they will be written.
  - c) We have trust funds for detachments when they dissolve. We must hold the funds for one year after the last member is transferred off their roster. We have a couple detachments in this holding.
  - d) In the bank we have \$75,703.97 in both checking and saving.
  - e) \$4,322 direct cash support
  - f) Fundraising brought in \$20,885 rifle raffle and \$780 challenge coins
  - g) Operational expenses last year \$9533.08
  - h) We will be able to carry into next year \$8,114.66
  - i) Marines Helping Marines has \$1,200 in the budget.
  - j) Disaster Relief Fund has \$4,024.89
4. 2023-2024 budget will be discussed and voted on later this afternoon.
  5. Ask for motion to accept the Paymaster's report as given, subject to audit. *Al Pasquale made the motion to approve the report subject to audit. Second by John Dilday. Approved by members present.*

**P. D.V.C.'s - Report of Officers** – Each DVC will be given 3 minutes to give their reports on events and happenings within their District during the quarter. *Greg Ciesielski made the motion to waive the reading of the reports. Second by Dave Ward. Approved by members present.*

1. NC West DVC's
  - a) West District – Denver Grant
    - i.

West District: Detachments#848, 1417, 1011, and 1221

1. #848 held its nominations in April and its officer installation on May 27, 2023. A ROI was completed and forwarded on May 27, 2023. Total paid members 58 with 8 unpaid regular and associate members. Multiple gun raffle events to raise money were held. These events allowed #848 to present a scholarship award to JROTC Captain Haley Salter of the Brevard HS Marine JROTC Unit at the school awards ceremony held on 05/18/2023. A monetary donation was also presented to the WNC Military Museum in Brevard that same date. #848 also participated in the Henderson County Memorial Day ceremony. Recruitment is the detachments main goal for the next year.
2. #1011 officer elections were held in April but the installation that was scheduled for May 17, 2023 was postponed to June 21, 2023 due to member surgeries and illnesses. New officers in the critical judge advocate and paymaster positions still need to be addressed. A power point lesson plan on transmittals and the use of the functions of the National Library and database is being prepared and will be presented at the June detachment meeting.
3. #1417, on May 25, 2023 held a detachment meeting where their new Officers were installed and a ROI was submitted. Currently the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report indicates significant improvement over past reports. The report states that Det. 1417 has 13.46% unpaid. #1417 participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Western North Carolina Veterans Cemetery and the Asheville Memorial Day Ceremony held in downtown Asheville. Commandant Parker sang the National Anthem at both events.
4. #1221 is still the star of the West Division with a zero percentage of regular and associate members being unpaid. The detachment also posted multiple hours of volunteer time and VAWS hours.
5. Memberships in all West Division detachments are in good standing. All Detachments activities and projects are improving post COVID-19 restrictions. Recruitment, National Database and retention are the goals for the year.

b) Northwest District – Tony Summers

c) Midwest District – Hank Kaczmarek

**Reporting Period (Highlight the period below):**

- Convention/Fourth quarter - 1 March to 31 May

**Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:**

1097 Iredell County  
1197 Table Rock  
1162 Gen Raymond G Davis  
1164 NC Foothills  
1163 Catawba Valley

**Detachment unpaid member status:**

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3% or less):

<u>Detachment#</u>	<u>Total Reg &amp; Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Total unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Total % unpai-</u>
1162	56	3	5.36
1163	71	0	0
1164	33	0	0
1197	42	0	0
1097	56	1	1.8
	258	4	1.5

**Total unpaid member percentage for this District:**

(Add up all of the Total unpaid members and divide that number by all of the above Total Reg. & Assoc. members, to get the total unpaid percentage for your District)  $4/258=1.55\%$

**How many Detachments are in your District? 5**

How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting? 2, 1164, 1162

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)? 40%

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment) 0

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members?

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? (These Detachments are a **PRIORITY** to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled) 0

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity? 0

If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they?  
1265 Capt. Jeb F. Seagle Turned in June 2021

Special District projects you are involved in at this time:

**New Detachment Recruiting Efforts:**

NC Foothills 1164 is planning a recruiting trip to the Lincoln County Apple Festival this year. Goal is to start a Fireteam in Lincolnton and someday revive Detachment 1265.

**Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:**

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why: I have had the privilege to serve as DVC of what I consider the best district in the Department. Every Commandant Stand out. Outstanding communication at all times. No conflicts within the membership of any detachment. Great program and great fundraising. TFT numbers more than you could hope for. This sure isn't my first trip to the Rodeo, and I was impressed throughout my Term. Request the Commandant consider Meritorious Unit Citations for all 5 detachments. I'll deliver personally. Bravo Zulu—Well Done! S/F

d) Northcentral District – Mike Clark

**Reporting Period (Highlight the period below):**

- Third quarter - 1 December to 28/29 February
- **Convention/Fourth quarter - 1 March to 31 May**
- First quarter - 1 June to 31 August
- Second quarter - 1 September to 30 November

**Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period: FIVE (5) OF FIVE (5)**

**Detachment unpaid member status:**

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3%, or less):

<u>Detachment#</u>	<u>Total Reg &amp; Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Total unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Total % unpaid</u>
260	165	9	6.52%
<b>1075</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23.00%</b>
1096	35	0	0%
1165	42	0	0%
1193	24	0	0%
1322	39	2	5.13%

**Total unpaid member percentage for this District:**

(Add up all of the 59 and divide that number by all of the above 390, to get the total unpaid percentage for your District) **8 % NOT INCLUDING ABSENT**

**INFORMATION**

**How many Detachments are in your District? FIVE (5)**

**How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting? Three (3) of Five (5) at the Spring Membership Meeting 18 MAR 2023**

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)? 50%

What Detachments in your District have 15, or less, total members? (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment) NONE

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members? WORKED WITH DET AND DONC PERSONNEL AT GUN SHOW FOR RIFLE RAFFLE. TICKETS SOLD WENT TO DETACHMENTS REPRESENTED. PROVIDED NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION ON CONTACTS. STILL CONTINUING TO SELL THE DONC RAFFLE TICKETS PRIOR TO THE CONVENTION. ALSO ASSISTING DET 1165 IN THE BIG PRIZE, WHICH HAS A FLIGHT FOR 2, 2 DAYS HOTEL STAY IN OVER 25 CITIES NATIONWIDE. WORKING WITH THEIR FUNDRAISING AND PUBLIC EVENTS SEEMS TO BE WELL RECEIVED

N/A

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? (These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled). NONE

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity?

If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they?

Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved? NORTHWEST TRIAD DET 1314, DVC STILL HAS POSSESSION OF THE DET PROPERTIES, WITH A CATEGORIZED LIST HAVING BEEN TURNED OVER TO DEPARTMENT, AND THE ACCOUNT MONIES ARE BEING HELD BY DONC PAYMASTER. ADEQUATE STORAGE FOR THIS PROPERTY OUTSIDE OF RESIDENCE IS STILL BEING SEARCHED FOR.

Special District projects you are involved in at this time: SUPPORTED EFFORTS FOR GREATER GREENSBORO DET 260 IN COORDINATION FOR MEMORIAL DAY FLAG RAISING AND EVENTS. ATTENDED DET 1165 MTG AND ASSISTED IN A FLAG BURNING CEREMONY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION. MADE PLANS TO ATTEND AND SUPPORT A FAMILY EVENT. VOLUNTEERED TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER NEEDS FOR THE DET 1075 MUD RUN.

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts: OTHER THAN THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE AND SHARING WHAT HAS WORKED WITH OTHER DISTRICT DETACHMENTS, NOTHING FURTHER. DET 1075 HAS HAD GOOD SUCCESS WITH THEIR RECRUITING CARDS, MOST DETS HAVE ADDED

MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES AND DECREASED NUMBER OF NON-PAID DUES

**Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:**

ALTHOUGH I HAVE VISITED ALL OF THE DETACHMENTS IN THIS TIME PERIOD, THERE ARE STILL SOME ISSUES. ONE DETACHMENT HAS NOT ELECTED AND INSTALLED OFFICERS PRIOR TO THE CONVENTION. DURING THE MEETING OF THREE (3) DETACHMENTS, IT WAS NOTED THAT THEY WERE STILL IN THE NOMINATION/ELECTION PROCESS. AFTER SPEAKING WITH THE COMMANDANT, ONE DETACHMENT HELD THE ELECTION AND HAD A PAST COMMANDANT INSTALL THEM THAT MEETING. ANOTHER DETACHMENT WAS MISSING A COUPLE OF PROSPECTIVE OFFICERS. HOWEVER, THEY WILL HAVE A MEETING PRIOR TO THE CONVENTION AND HAVE PROPERLY INSTALLED OFFICERS AND SUBMITTED AN UPDATED ROI. THE LAST DETACHMENT HAS NOT HELD ELECTIONS OR INSTALLED NEW OFFICERS, CITING LACK OF INTERESTED PARTIES. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE BY-LAWS REQUIRE THESE PROCEDURES AND NOT DOING THEM WAS NOT AN OPTION

**Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why:**

GREATER GREENSBORO DETACHMENT 260, GUILFORD COUNTY, CONTINUES TO DISBURSE MANY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS TO LOCAL ENTITIES THAT SUPPORT MARINE AND VETERAN NEEDS. AS WELL AS DELIVER MATTRESSES FOR HOMELESS VETERANS BEING HOUSED. THE DETACHMENT WAS REPRESENTED IN A DEDICATION OF TINY HOME OF HIGH POINT, WITH WHICH THEY HAVE A PARTNERSHIP. MEMBERS ARRANGED A MEMORIAL DAY FLAG RAISING AT A LOCAL SHOPPING CENTER, SUPPORTING MEMORIAL DAY EVENT AT THE CAROLINA FIELD OF HONOR ON THE SAME DAY. A REVERSE RAFFLE WAS HELD ON 29 APR 2023 AND HAD GREAT SUCCESS

PERCY JOHN FULTON DETACHMENT 1075, FORSYTH COUNTY, HAD A BANNER YEAR WITH THEIR TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM. STATISTICS SHOW THEY HAD THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT, AS SUCH AS DVC A RECOMMENDATION FOR AN AWARD WAS SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR RECOGNITION. THEY ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY WITH THEIR 2023 PROGRAM AND HAVE SEVERAL HUNDRED TOYS ALREADY IN HAND. THEY HAVE PREPARED FOR THEIR BIG FUNDRAISER, THE USMC NC MUD RUN, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BRING IN A SIZEABLE AMOUNT. AS DVC I HAVE OFFERED TO VOLUNTEER FOR SUPPORT AS NEEDED. A QUARTERLY REPORT WAS NOT PROVIDED PRIOR TO THIS SUBMISSION. THE INFORMATION ABOVE

IS FROM THE 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER REPORT. DVC WILL UPDATE AND RESUBMIT ONCE IT IS COMPLETED AND SENT.

CORPORAL JOHNNY A. WILLIAMSON DET 1165, RANDOLPH COUNTY, HELD WOUNDED WARRIOR BOWLING FUNDRAISER, WITH WHICH I ASSISTED, ON 18 FEB 2023 RAISING OVER \$1,400. PRESENTED THE FAMILY SPORTS CENTER, A SHEBORO FOR HOSTING THE BOWLING THE DETACHMENTS IN THE DISTRICT DO SOME MODERATE INTERACTION WITH THE PUBLIC IN THEIR EFFORTS. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT WE PLAN EVENTS IN NEIGHBORHOODS AROUND OUR PROSPECTIVE AREAS TO BECOME MORE VISIBLE. LET THE COMMUNITY GET TO KNOW US AND WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER. PROGRAMS WITH LOCAL YOUTH COULD INTRODUCE THEM TO THE YOUNG MARINE'S PROGRAMS, THE AVAILABILITY OF TOYS FOR TOTS, JOHN PHILLIP SOUSA AWARDS AND THE PRESIDENTIAL FITNESS AWARDS. WORKING WITH THE LOCAL RECRUITERS TO ATTEND HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE FUNCTIONS COULD GAIN MORE EXPOSURE TO PARENTS WHO MAY BE PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS.

DET 1165 PAYMASTER HAS WORKED A PAYMENT PLAN FOR LIFEMEMBERSHIP WITHIN THE DETACHMENT. THE UPCOMING INCREASE IN LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES WILL LIKELY HALT THAT PROGRAM. HOWEVER, IF IT COULD BE REPRODUCED WITHIN OTHER DETACHMENTS LIFE MEMBERSHIP WOULD INCREASE AND UNPAID DUES WOULD BE LESS LIKELY.

THREE (3) DETACHMENTS IN THE DISTRICT NOW HAVE 100% PAID MEMBERSHIP.



e) Central District – John Dilday

i.

Quarterly Report for the Central District of the Marine Corps League

The Central District is Composed of Five Detachments with Three of Them relatively small and Two That are Medium in size. But no Matter the Size They are all Very Active in Each of Their Communities. They do Things that give the Marine Corps League a Positive Viewpoint of the League in their Communities.

After finishing a Fantastic Toys For Tots year Each Detachment has already begun their planning for the Next Year. Planning such Events as Christmas in July to kick off the New Campaign.

Several of the Detachments have already held a Family Cookout for all Marine Veterans and some of the Others will be holding their Cookouts in the near Future. This has created the initiative for bringing in some New Members.

Each Detachment held or was a part of Other Celebrations on Memorial Day in their Community.

The Growth of New Members has Been Steady in some areas but because of the economic sources in Some Communities the recruitment of New Members has been a struggle. Emphasis by each Detachment has been difficult in some ways but it is still a priority. Retention of Membership has held Steady for all Detachments.

Several Marines from Three of the Detachments Came together in April to do a Memorial Celebration for a Marine that was killed in the Battle of Tarawa on November 23, 1943 and was Buried at Sea, the Family never got to have Closure. So, on a Beautiful Sunday Afternoon in Erwin NC Family Members came together to Honor this 19 Year Old Marine and Finally Celebrate his Life and Sacrifice for His Country.

All Five Detachments have had their elections and installation of their Staff. Four of the Five Detachments continued with the Same Commandant for another Year.

We started last Fall having a Quarterly Gathering of Each Commandant to Share ideas that might help each Detachment and also how each Detachment can work together. These Gatherings continued in the current Quarter and plans are to continue sharing of ideas sessions in the next Quarter. Each session has been very Successful.

The Commitment is to continue to grow and to Represent the Community with Honor and Pride.

It continues to be an Honor to Serve as the District Vice Commandant and it is my objective to assist each Detachment in all Activities that they put on and not just attending Their Meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Dilday

- f) Southcentral – Denny Mathias
- 2. NC East DVC's
  - a) North District – James Mitchell
  - b) Northeast District – Leotha Forte
    - i.

**Reporting Period (Highlight the period below):**

- First quarter – 1 June to August 31
- Second quarter - 1 September to 30 November
- Third quarter - 1 December to 28/29 February
- Fourth quarter - 1 March to 31 May

**Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:** five

**Detachment unpaid member status:**

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3% or less:

Detachment #	Reg & Assoc members	Total unpaid members	Total % unpaid
John V. Berg 257			
Plueddemann 1186	18	0	0.0
Suzi Sannes 1262	35	1	2.78
Gold Leaf 1276	21	1	4.55
Waynesboro 1359	14	0	0.0

**Total unpaid member percentage for this District:**

(Add up all of the Total unpaid members and divide that number by all of the above Total Reg. & Assoc. members, to get the total unpaid percentage for your District) **2.24**

**How many Detachments are in your District?** **Five**

**How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?** **Three**

**What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)?** **66.3**

**What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment)** **Waynesboro**

**What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members?** **Asking them how can I help to improve their membership**

**What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? (These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled)** **one has a small membership, but has a heart for the Corps**

**Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity?** **No, they all have goals for the good of the MCL**

**If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they?** **N/A**

**Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved?** **No, they're striving to meet the standard of the SOP**

**Special District projects you are involved in at this time:** **Bring all the detachments together as one unit working for the same goal: "The Best"**

**New Detachment Recruiting Efforts:** **N/A**

**Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:** **Not only being seen in the community, but working in the community to be seen**

**Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why:** **Waynesboro membership is increasing, great job!! Plueddemann 1186 has a new Commandant**

- c) South District – Howard Boyd
  - i.

**Reporting Period (Highlight the period below):**

- Spring quarter - 1 December to 28/29 February
- **Convention/Summer quarter - 1 March to 31 May**
- Fall quarter - 1 June to 31 August
- Winter quarter - 1 September to 30 November

**Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:**

1005 Paul Ray Purgason Detachment - Shallotte  
 1070 Cape Fear Detachment – Wilmington  
 1321 Hampstead Detachment - Hampstead  
 1036 Carolina Borders Detachment - Calabash

**Detachment unpaid member status:**

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3%, or less):

Detachment #	Total Reg & Assoc mbrs	Total unpaid mbrs	Total % unpaid
1005 Paul Ray Purgason	29	0	0.00%*
1036 Carolina Borders	22	0	0.00%*
1070 Cape Fear	81	14	14.74%
1321 Hampstead	55	5	8.62%*

\* Reported to me in time to prepare this report. Otherwise, the info is from the 4/4/2022 Detachment Report from National

\*\* Reported numbers are significantly different that the National Report.

**Total unpaid member percentage for this District:**

(Add up all of the Total unpaid members and divide that number by all of the above Total Reg. & Assoc. members, to get the total unpaid percentage for your District)

District Total	187	14	6.97%
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How many Detachments are in your District? ..... 4

How many of these Detachments were  
represented at the last Quarterly meeting? ..... 2

Routing: Department Senior Vice Commandant, Associated Department NC Area Officer, Department Adjutant for the Commandant's file

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)? .....50%

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? ..... 0  
(Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment)

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members?  
N/A

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? ..... 0  
(These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled)

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity?.....NO  
If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they? Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved?

Special District projects you are involved in at this time:

**New Detachment Recruiting Efforts:**

Have been contacted per interest in a new Detachment in the Whiteville, Columbus County area.

**Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:**

I have made visits to each of the Detachments to discuss recruitment and maintenance of membership. Also stressed attendance at Quarterly meetings.

**Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why:**

All Detachments are working closely with their communities in various philanthropic endeavors. Carolina Border provided ROTC awards at three Brunswick County High Schools in May. Shallotte Detachment is participating in the Town of Shallotte Market at Mulberry events during the summer to help draw awareness to the Detachment and its community endeavors and for recruiting. Hampstead and Cape Fear Detachments continue in various community endeavors for the benefit of their communities.

- d) East District – Greg Ciesielski
  - i.

It has been an honor and pleasure serving the Dept of North Carolina as a District Vice Commandant. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

This past year, because of medical issues, the DVC for the East had to resign and I was given the one Detachment he was responsible for. So now I have five (5) Detachments; Onslow County Det. 262, Swansboro Det. 1407, Cherry Point Det. 1067, Oriental Dragon Det. 1413 and Outer Banks Det. 1264. Of these five, they are, for the most part thriving.

Onslow County Det is working well and has a good Commandant on board.  
Swansboro Det is really active with lots of programs and activities.  
Cherry Point Det is struggling with some issues but still operating within procedures.  
Oriental Dragon Det is very active with lots of programs and activities  
Outer Banks Det has a new Commandant and showing a resurgence in running the Detachment.

Overall, these five Detachments are doing well despite some problems; the reports are being done, recruiting efforts are ongoing and the meetings are scheduled and being run on time. I would suggest that all Commandants continue to work on improving their respective Detachments, get members active and engaged and look for new opportunities to highlight the MCL within their areas of responsibility.

It was a pleasure seeing two of my Detachments take on the responsibility of holding a Department meeting and the 2023 Convention. There was cooperation between the Detachments to assist each other if needed.

As we start a new year, I hope to visit and encourage these Detachments to further their activities, attend more Department meetings, recruit new members, get the seasoned members to mentor and assist whenever possible and to keep all Marines and their families interested and involved in the Marine Corps League.

e) Southeast District – Greg Ciesielski

**Q. Commandant's Report – Ric Ledford**

1. He did four officer installations and visited six detachments.
2. He had a meeting with a couple of Marines wanting to start a new detachment in Haywood County area.
3. He was a guest speaker and sang the National Anthem at the Murphy Memorial Day ceremony.
4. Discuss 2023 National Convention – ‘Submit **full** Detachment Delegate strength’ encourage members to attend if possible.

## **R. Report of Staff Officers**

1. Sr. Vice Commandant – David Anderson
  - a) Thank you to the fundraising team and all individuals who sold tickets.
  - b) Up to May 31<sup>st</sup> – 902 tickets sold
  - c) A total \$22,927 raised up to May 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - d) Please help the next Sr Vice as you did me.
    - Thank you to the fundraising team-Keith Shearin, Tammy Anderson
    - Special recognition-Reggie Sawyer, Kevin Ashton, Mike Clark, and Donald Johnson
    - Any member or associate that sold DoNC raffle tickets, are just as much as the fundraising team as anyone else.
    - It is my understanding that we set a record for this year's fundraising.
    - 4902 tickets have been sold totaling \$20,745 collected, average price per ticket \$4.23.
    - Coin sales, \$780
    - Donations, \$1,402
    - Total for fundraising efforts, \$22,927
    - Thank you for allowing me to be your Senior Vice Commandant for this year.
    - Please help the new incoming SVC to be successful in their fundraising efforts.
  
2. Jr. Vice Commandant – Reggie Sawyer
  - a) We are hurting overall as a group on recruiting / retention.
  - b) Help promote the League even by just wearing a League shirt or cap.
  - c)



# Recruiting



- Wear USMC or MCL apparel (clothing / hats) !!! OR Have visible USMC tattoos!
- Does your vehicle have USMC or MCL stickers, magnets, license plate frame or medal EGAs?
  - Marines will say S/F if they know you are a fellow Marine.
- **Be prepared** to talk to prospective members and associate members.
  - Carry Generic Business Cards or one with your name on it (in vehicle or wallet)
  - Tri-Fold Brochure with Application in vehicle (& spouses vehicle too)
  - Elevator Speech
    - What is the MCL and how do we help nationally & in the local community?
    - What are the TOP 5 things Det does?
- Tell Marines to Google Marine Corps League North Carolina OR Marine Corps League Fayetteville (your local town/county) to find out more
  - It should bring up your Detachment website & Detachment Facebook page
- Invite prospective members to attend a meeting as your guest just to check us out with no commitment to join.

d)

4 inch Logo

1 3/4 inch Logo

SEMPER PARATUS

U.S. MARINE CORPS

U.S. MARINE CORPS

U.S. MARINE CORPS

U.S. MARINE CORPS

U.S. MARINE CORPS

Plate Frames available at

- 1) Sgt Grit <https://www.grunt.com/>
- 2) <https://marineshop.net/>
- 3) Amazon 4) Ebay 5) the internet

Find at Sgt Grit As of 5/28/2023

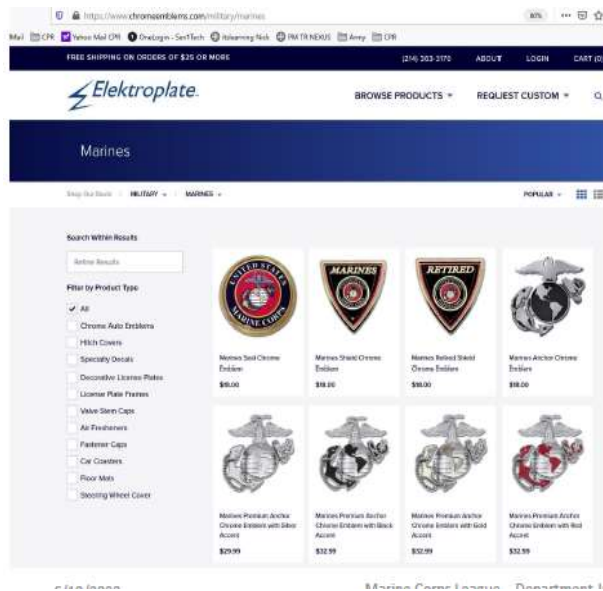
Marine Corps Decal With Gold Foiling \$5.99

**Why you should have on all your vehicles?**

1. Marines will approach you. Great time to ask if they are in the MCL.
2. Potential USMC Recruits will ask about your service. Great time to encourage them to visit a local recruiter.

All USMC Recruiter's have these decals. If its for your personal use, they'll have no problem giving one or two.

e)



## Chrome Emblems (Not cheap plastic)

<https://www.chromeemblems.com/>

Applied with 3M adhesive tape  
(included)

Will not scratch paint  
and can be removed  
when you sell or trade vehicle

f)

## Great Recruiting and Retention Tool



They can be personalized

## DMV Specialty/Civic License Plates

- Go to local DMV office to order plate.
- Bring your MCL Membership Card to verify you are a member in good standing.
- Small Fee in addition to your registration.
- May be personalized.

g)

### What a good Detachment gets right:

- Det MCL Tent Personalized
- Det Table Cover Personalized
- Det Challenge Coins
- Det Facebook Page
- Det Website
- Det Red Polo Shirts
- Det Banner
- Young Marines support
- JROTC support
- Support 
- Generic Business Card for all members to hand out.
- Tri-fold Brochures that include a membership application.
- Eagle Scout Awards
- Det MCL Awards to members
- Det Staff Meetings with an Agenda & Meeting Minutes
- Det Scholarship program
- Members attend National Conventions & Conferences
- Attend Parades and other Veterans events.
- Attend Community Events, Fairs,
- Email membership about events & meetings
- Friendly and welcoming membership

### KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK !

3. Judge Advocate – Bill Brown
  - a) He has worked on the Department bylaws to get them updated.
  - b) He has been working on a cross reference sheet for National and Department.

During this past quarter I attended the Spring Membership Meeting in Havelock NC hosted by the Cherry Point Detachment, where I announced my intention to again seek election as Judge Advocate if nominated. I also made note of the progress made to date of the efforts to update the DoNC Bylaws after the review by the National Judge Advocate.

I can again report that during this quarter we had no instances of formal Grievances or Disciplinary Charges brought by the Detachments. I hope that the trend of resolving issues at the lowest level will prevail and that Chapter Nine actions are a last resort to resolve indifferences.

I appreciate the input of recommended changes to both the National Bylaws and National Administrative Procedures (NBL/NAP) by April 1<sup>st</sup>, and to the Department of North Carolina Bylaws (DBL) by April 9<sup>th</sup> as well. I personally submitted 8 proposals to the NBL/NAP and the majority of the proposals to the DBL.

And I also made it known that I feel the Detachments should not be admonished for not having their bylaws updated; that the DoNC Bylaws must first be in order. To that end, numerous changes need to be made there as well as then updating the Sample Bylaws to reflect the latest changes. The first of which is to make Administrative Procedures optional and not mandatory at the Detachment level – consistent with the NBL/NAP.

I began work on a cross-reference spreadsheet to show which sections of the NBL and NAP relate to the corresponding DBL sections and also to include the Sample Bylaws. This will greatly simplify the update process when a new change is issued at the National Convention, the effort will be minimized in a ripple down effect to the Department, Sample and Detachment Bylaws.

I received several Detachment Bylaws submissions over the quarter and have completed a couple of those updates. I notified each that my priority will be to update the DoNC Bylaws and Sample Bylaws, but will work with the Detachments to get theirs in sync as well. Using conference calls and Zoom meetings to share documents and discuss recommended changes has worked well and I plan to continue this process. For the time being, and until we can get the DoNC Bylaws changes to occur at the Department Convention, I have put the reporting of detachment compliance on hold, but will work with Phil Randall to resume this as soon as possible going forward.

To date no one has indicated an intent to oppose me in the elections, but when I first ran for this job I indicated that should anyone wish to have the job and is elected, I stand ready to assist in updating all that I can and making this Department the best it can be!

I have continued to work with SVC Anderson in hosting the Commandant's Council meetings monthly via Zoom, and most recently we have used Zoom to also host the monthly DoNC Board of Trustee meetings. We are working earnestly to engage every Detachment to have their Commandant or an

Elected Officer in attendance so that we can have meaningful dialog and have them participate more in the decision process when necessary – financial matters not included in the Department budget, input for replacements should a vacancy occur of the Department Elected Board of Trustees.

By now each Detachment has seen the proposed National and Department changes to Bylaws and Administrative Procedures on the National and Department websites. Careful thought and consideration went into the research and rationale of many of these proposals, and it is only fitting we give them the same degree of respect and courtesy in our review of their merit when presented for consideration, discussion and voting if and when called.

I have been contacted recently by members from other Departments regarding proposed new language for the NBL/NAP and have had lengthy discussions on several issues and also potential training sessions for Judge Advocates at the detachment level and I truly welcome the interest that they bring.

Lastly, I wish all in attendance at the 2023 Department Convention a most pleasant experience that will make them want to attend even more Department, Division and possibly National gatherings in the future.

4. Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski
  - a) There are 26 proposed bylaws submitted.
  - b) We will vote on them by the assigned letter for organizational purposes during New Business.
5. Sgt.-at-Arms – Steve Tracy – no report
6. Chief of Staff – AJ Pitts
  - a) Discuss upcoming Membership meetings and host Detachments for them
    - i. **Fall 2023** - Catawba Valley Det #1163, Hickory, October 27-28
    - i. **Spring 2024** - Alan D Lam Det #1209
    - ii. **Convention 2024** – Greater Greensboro #260
    - iii. **Fall 2024** –Hampstead Det #1321 and Cape Fear Det #1070
    - iv. **Spring 2025** – need a volunteer detachment
    - v. **Convention 2025** – to be voted on in later in the meeting.
    - vi. **Fall 2025** – need a volunteer detachment.

**S. Report of Project Leaders**

(3 minutes)

1. Toys For Tots – Kevin Ashton
  - i. Enterprise Truck Rental are willing to help provide trucks.
2. Eagle Scout Program – Charles Minton (absent)
3. Marine For Life Liaison – Mark Munger
  - i. He is no longer part of the HQMC.
  - ii. He and David Ossian are the North Carolina contacts.
4. Young Marine Program – Jonathan Henderson (absent)
5. VAVS Program – Al Pasquale
  - i.

You have requested data on Volunteer hours that have been performed, it is difficult to put a number on hours spent with relation to my position. I have had the opportunity to become involved in the affairs of vets from other services in addition to Our Marine Family. There are situations among our Vets and their respective families that require help in various categories. One of which is homelessness, proper shelter, in that regard, I plan to donate 3 blankets to a deserving family at our Convention in June. Two of these blankets have been Hand Crocheted by the Ladies Club of Beth Myer Synagogue in North Raleigh. The other is an all wool blanket that I am personally donating. In addition I have been out there recruiting for new members to the MCL.

6. Fund-Raising – David Anderson – under Sr Vice Report
7. Compliance Officer – Phil Randall (absent)
8. Scholarship – Ric Ledford – no applications

9. A/V Equipment – Denny Mathias
  - i. The host detachments will have to get their own A/V equipment for the meetings.

*Commandant Ledford “At this time I ask for a motion from the Floor to accept the Officer and Committee reports as given or submitted.”*

Todd Carpenter made the motion to accept the reports. Second by Jim Mitchell. Approved by members present.

**T. Unfinished Business**

1. None

**U. Awards**

*Commandant Ledford assisted by Adjutant Hamilton*

1. Certificates of Appreciation
  - a) Greater Greensboro Detachment 260
  - b) Williams Canter Detachment 1187
2. Department Level Meritorious Unit Awards
  - a) Percy John Fulton Detachment 1075



- b) Iredell County Detachment 1097



c) Gen Raymond G Davis Detachment 1162



d) Catawba Valley Detachment 1163



e) NC Foothills Detachment 1164



f) Tablerock Detachment 1197



# Marine Corps League



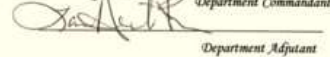
## Meritorious Unit Commendation (Department Level)

Presented to

### Tablerock #1197

*In appreciation and gratitude for meritorious service in the interests  
of the United States of America, the United States Marine  
Corps and the Marine Corps League, for the period May, 2022 to June, 2023  
Awarded this 10th Day of June, 2023*

Authorized to wear the Department Meritorious Unit  
Commendation Ribbon by each member of the entity to which this  
award was made during the period indicated as approved.

  
Department Commandant  
  
Department Adjutant

### 3. Distinguished Service Awards

- a) Keith Shearin
- b) Kevin Ashton
- c) Tammy Anderson

### V. New Business

1. 2025 Convention bids - We can hold the Department Convention anytime from 01- May through 15-June, per the Bylaws. Conventions are typically held in June
  - a) Ask any Detachments that would like to submit a proposal for 2025 Convention to come forward to make a presentation
  - b) NO volunteer detachment stepped up.
2. New fund-raising event. – Propose setting limit for purchase of item
  - a) There was some discussion with BOT about raising the amount due to extra expenses.
  - b) There was last year allocated \$4,000.
  - c) Gun shows now are charging us for tables, when we attend them.
  - d) The BOT discussion was to propose up to \$6,500 for possible expenses.

- e) It is cautioned as we need to present a balanced budget. In the years before we did not make the kind of money as we did this past year.
  - f) The proposed fundraising plans must be attainable and practical.
  - g) North Carolina is looking at opening up options for non-profits for fundraising such as games of chance.
  - h) Robert Hare – Ladies gun option online, every detachment who participates gets a piece of the pie / trip – vacation package / 2024 Greensboro Convention package
  - i) Reggie Sawyer – gun raffle with a team / monthly 50-50 option
3. MAL & PLM – Scott Shermeyer
- a) PLM – goes through the same process as an annual dues person
  - b) MAL – applications for membership and PLM applications are being sent to National. This is NOT the process.
  - c) Bob Borka should only get applications through the Department Paymaster unless the person is truly MAL.
  - d) PLM processing must be postmarked to National by June 30<sup>th</sup>. This means he must have it postmarked in time. Get them to Scott well in advance to beat the price increase.
  - e) DoNC is losing PLM and not just by deaths.
  - f) Do not wait until the end of July. National closes down for about two weeks for the National Convention. August is a slow month due to this.
4. Donation challenge – Toys for Tots and Young Marines
- a) Please make the checks out to DoNC and send to Paymaster.
  - b) We want to make a presentation at the National Convention from the Department.

**W. Recess of the DoNC Convention morning session**

- 1. Chaplain to close Bible
- 2. Sgt-at-Arms to announce that the meeting will reconvene at 1300.

***Recess for lunch at 1122 - Reconvene at 1300***

**X. Reconvene the afternoon DoNC Convention meeting 1301**

- 1. Sgt-at-Arms to bring meeting to order
- 2. Chaplain to open the Bible

**Y. Certificate of Appreciation**

1. Greater Greensboro Det # 260



2. William Canter Det #1187



## Z. Paymaster Discuss and vote on 2023-2024 budget.

### 1. Proposed budget presented.

MCL, Department of North Carolina Budget Overview Fiscal Year 2023-24

Line #		Proposed	Notes
1	<b>Income</b>		
2	From Checking	\$ -	This amount is what we estimate might have to come from retained earnings to balance the budget.
3	Investments	\$ -	
4	Business Checking Interest	\$ 15.00	
5	Business Savings Interest	\$ 10.00	
6	Total Investments	\$ 25.00	
7	Direct Public Support		
8	Detachment Retirement Escrow?		
9	Member Donations Rec'd		
10	Detachment Donations Rec'd		
11	Public Donations Rec'd	\$ -	Public support
12	Total Direct Public Support	\$ -	
13	Fundraising Revenue		
14	2022-23 Dept. Raffle	\$ 1,020.00	
15	2023-24 Dept. Raffle	\$ 15,000.00	
16	Challenge Coins	\$ 35.00	
17	Total Fundraising Revenue	\$ 16,055.00	
18	Program Income		
19	Life Member Interest Rebate	\$ 3,404.88	Actual Amount Rec'd will be held in escrow until next fiscal year
20	Membership Dues	\$ 4,710.00	Actual Amount Rec'd will be held in escrow until next fiscal year
21	Total Program Income	\$ 8,114.88	Adjusted total to show last year's allocated escrow amounts
22	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 24,194.88</b>	
23	<b>Expense</b>		
24	Department Officer's Expenses		these are position-related expenses
25	Commandant's Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	
26	Sr. Vice Commandant's Expenses	\$ 400.00	These are not for personal expense reimbursements
27	Jr. Vice Commandant's Expenses	\$ 400.00	No food
28	Judge Advocate's Expenses	\$ 400.00	No beverage
29	DVC Expenses		Mileage
30	Central	\$ 400.00	
31	East	\$ 400.00	
32	Mid West	\$ 400.00	
33	North	\$ 400.00	
34	North Central	\$ 400.00	
35	North East	\$ 400.00	
36	Northwest	\$ 400.00	
37	South	\$ 400.00	
38	South Central	\$ 400.00	
39	South East	\$ 400.00	
40	West	\$ 400.00	
41	Total DVC Expenses	\$ 4,400.00	
42	Chaplain's Expenses	\$ 400.00	
43	Adjutant's Expenses	\$ 400.00	
44	Paymaster Expenses		
45	Printing and Copying	\$ 100.00	
46	Supplies	\$ 100.00	
47	Paymaster Expenses - Other	\$ 200.00	
48	Total Paymaster Expenses	\$ 400.00	
49	Total Department Officer Position-Related Expenses	\$ 8,800.00	
50	Fundraising Expense	\$ 8,600.00	

51	Meetings Expenses			
62	Mid-East Division Conference(s)	\$	100.00	to host department
63	Convention/Membership Mtg.			Convention event should pay for this expense, only members who attend should bear the burden because they benefit
64	Host Detachment Allowance	\$	600.00	* Fall & Spring DoNC Meetings & DoNC Convention
65	Total Meetings Expenses	\$	700.00	
66	Operations			These are paid directly by DoNC debit card, as needed
67	Awards	\$	400.00	
68	Bank Fees	\$	-	
69	Bank Fees - Business Checks Order	\$	-	
80	Books, Subscriptions, Reference	\$	-	
81	Free Conference Call / One Number	\$	50.00	* Conference Calling & online meeting
82	Multi-Media Expense	\$	100.00	
83	Postage	\$	200.00	
84	Square, Inc. Fee	\$	50.00	This is part of fundraising
86	Web Site Expenses	\$	150.00	* Domain & Hosting, \$11.00/month x 12 months hosting
88	Total Operations	\$	860.00	operational expenses (does not cover)
87	Semper Fidelis			Always Faithful Fund
88	Marines Helping Marines	\$	2,000.00	
89	New Detachment Allowance	\$	300.00	Detachment must have Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Charter, and Bank Account before disbursement of funds
70	Total Semper Fidelis	\$	2,300.00	
71	Total Expense	\$	18,860.00	
72	Retained Income	\$	7,244.98	
73	Net	\$	-	

2. \$15,000 fundraising is reflected in proposed budget.
3. Proposed \$8800 for officer related expenses.
4. Proposed \$6500 for fundraising maximum expense
5. MED conference \$100 was voted on many years ago. It goes to the host department.
6. Marines Helping Marines fund \$2,000 is a line item that has no set way to spend it.
7. The adoption of this budget will allow the BOT to approve the use of these funds through May 31, 2024.
8. Al Paquale asked what are the criteria for the Marines Helping Marines line? Scott Shermeyer stated there is no specific guideline on using it. The BOT makes the decision and report back to the department. This is different from the Disaster Relief Fund.
9. *Bruce Goeden – Makes motion to accept budget as proposed. Second by Howard Boyd.*
  - a) Greg Ciesielski asked why does the numbers on the screen not shown? Scott Shermeyer stated he adjusted some numbers up above.
  - b) Bill Brown stated National distributed a vetting form for the humanitarian.
  - c) John Dilday stated not only do we have money in Marines Helping Marines, you can also go to the MCL Foundation and North Carolina Serves.

- d) Marilyn Bower asked Denny mentioned the A/V equipment being sold, is the host detachment cost in this? Scott Shermeyer stated the committee from the Spring Meeting did not provide a report today. He recommends that the host detachment should take this into account.
- e) Rick Thomason stated about the MED monies, he sent out in 2021 an email requesting monies based on breaking even. Recommended each department giving a set amount based on membership. DoNC came to \$400.
- f) Mike Schafer calls the question.
- g) AJ Pitts recommended raising the host detachment money to \$400 to help cover A/V costs. Scott Shermeyer stated some detachments make money from hosting and they all should.
- h) Frank Christmas calls the question. Scott Shermeyer stated it doesn't stop questions. Frank Christmas stated it does stop questions.
- i) Kenny Joyner stated officer positions have \$400. An outgoing officer has expenses today and if they are submitted today, where do they come from? Scott Shermeyer stated any expense now submitted is coming from the proposed budget.

*10. Voting – approved by members present.*

## **AA. New Business... continued**

- 5. Craig Reeling – If you see someone with a Marine shirt on, ask ‘when were you in?’, then let them tell you the story. Listen.
- 6. Bylaw proposals – Lisa Ciesielski used the ‘recommended sequence for review’ document from JA Bill Brown.

a)

V1 and V2 = Article VIII Section 800 – This proposal indicates that any amendment approved at the National Convention should not require member approval at the Department Convention – we can't disagree with National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. Simply update our DoNC directives with mirrored or like verbiage to be compliant with NBL/NAP.

*V1 – Bruce Rakfeldt made the motion to **accept**. Second by Al Pasquale. Approved by members present.*

*V2 – Denny Mathias made the motion to **deny**. Second by Kenny Joyner. Approved by members present.*

b)

Address five instances where the National Judge Advocate indicated that our DoNC Bylaws were not in agreement with NBL/NAP. Each has been revised as required by NJA Russ Miller and are now compliant.

A= 101 Credentials Delegates

R = 620 Delinquent Members

U = 705 – Incorporations

WW = Ap Chapter 1 – Marine of the Year

X = AP Chapter 2 – Re-write of “Woman of the Year” to Associate Member of the Year

*A, R, U, WW, X – Jeffrey Jones made the motion to **accept** all of these. Second by Devon Ferguson.  
Approved by members present.*

c)

Reflect Clerical (correction of references or added additional information) to be consistent with NBL/NAP.

Mirrors or is consistent with NBL/NAP:

D = 150 Installation of Department Officers

Y = 401 Department Administrative Procedures

J = 425 Bonding

K = 505 Bylaws

L = 525 Board of Trustees (Chg “935” to “525”)

M = 530 Election and Installation of Officers

P = 615 Good Standing

Q = 618 Not in Good Standing

S = 650 Dual Membership

*D, Y, J, K, L, M, P, Q, S – Jeffrey Jones made the motion to **accept** all of these. Second by Robert Hare.  
Approved by members present.*

d)

B = 120 Nominations

*Howard Boyd made the motion to **deny**. Second by Jeffrey Jones.*

*Discussion:*

*David Anderson stated he didn't like it. In reality, you must put in your intent before Spring. What if only one puts out an intent and then can't do it, then there no person can be nominated.*

*Bruce Rakfeldt stated he didn't like it. Same reasons as David and national may not adopt their proposal.*

*Vote:*

*Approved by members present.*

e)

C = 145 Adds Elected Board of Trustees (EBoT) for Convention Approvals

*Bruce Rakfeldt made the motion to **accept**. Second by John Dilday. Approved by members present.*

f)

E = 200 Composition – Puts “and all Detachment Commandants in definition of Board of Trustees and further segregates difference between Elected Board of Trustees (EBoT) and Consolidated Board of Trustees (CBoT)

*Robert Hare made the motion to **accept**. Second by Jim Mitchell.*

*Discussion:*

*Bruce Rakfeldt stated the CBOT should not be included to vote on elected replacements.*

*Bill Brown stated yes, he intended to have CBOT with the EBOT.*

*Bruce Rakfeldt stated that he feels only EBOT should do this.*

*Kenny Joyner stated he likes the way it is. This gives CBOT a voice.*

*Scott Shermeyer stated the word ‘consolidated’ expresses both.*

*Scott Shermeyer made the motion to remove the ‘consolidated’ and have only BOT and EBOT.*

*Second by Kenny Joyner. Approved by members present.*

*Vote for modified proposal:*

*Approved by members present.*

g)

F = 215 Vacancy (tied to Section 200)

*Bruce Rakfeldt made the motion to **accept option 1**. Second by Felix Nuenez. Approved by members present.*

h)

G = 310 Duties of Staff Officers – Clerical except to add CBoT reference.

*Bruce Rakfeldt made the motion to **accept**. Second by Jesus Vega. Approved by members present.*

i)

H = 401 Department Administrative Procedures (change deadline to 1<sup>st</sup> day on month of DoNC Convention

*Al Pasquale made the motion to **accept**. Second by Bruce Rakfeldt. Approved by members present.*



j)

I = 410 Meetings (delete "F.") – duplicate of D.

*Bruce Rakfeldt made the motion to **accept**. Second by Bruce Goeden.*

*Discussion:*

*David Anderson stated the 'should' should be changed to 'shall'.*

*Bruce Rakfeldt made a motion to change the word.*

*Second by Jesus Vega.*

*Approved by members present.*

*Vote on proposal:*

*Approved by members present.*

k)

N = 565 Employer Identification Number and Incorporation. Para. "C"

*Jim Mitchell made the motion to **accept**. Second by Rich Holbrook. Approved by members present.*

l)

O = 610 Membership Dues & Fees

*Bruce Goeden made the motion to **accept**. Second by Jim Mitchell. Approved by members present.*

m)

T = 660 Resignation From Elected/Appointed Offices

*Todd Carpenter made the motion to **accept**. Second by Jim Mitchell. Approved by members present.*

**BB.Break** – 15 minutes (1415 to 1431)

**CC. Election of Officers for the 2023-2024 year**

1. Election Chairperson will be Past Cmdt Bruce Rakfeldt assisted by the Credentials Committee.
2. Nominations:
  - a) Commandant
    - i. Ric Ledford – Greg Ciesielski / Jeffrey Jones
    - ii. David Anderson – Keith Shearin / Ray Randall
  - b) Senior Vice
    - i. Reggie Sawyer – Craig Reeling / Ray Clark
    - ii. Robert Hare – Keith Shearin / AJ Pitts
  - c) Junior Vice
    - i. Jim Mitchell – John Staley / Jeffrey Jones
    - ii. AJ Pitts – Patrick Melton / Kevin Rumsey
  - d) Judge Advocate
    - i. Bill Brown – Kenny Joyner / Terry Shackleton

- e) It was determined that Craig Reeling could not be a delegate as his primary detachment is not in NC.
  - i. Scott Shermeyer made the motion to re-open the Senior Vice nominations. Second by Jeffrey Jones. Approved by members present.
- f) Senior Vice:
  - i. Reggie Sawyer – Bruce Goeden / Ray Clark
  - ii. Robert Hare – Jim Days / Gunner Ski
- g) After caucusing and voting, the 2023-24 officers are:
  - i. Ric Ledford – commandant
  - ii. Robert Hare – senior vice
  - iii. AJ Pitts – junior vice
  - iv. Bill Brown – judge advocate

**DD. Good of the League**

1. Update on 2024 convention – Det# 260 Commandant Hare
  - a) Wyndam Garden Inn \$116+tax July 1<sup>st</sup> for the rooms
2. Doc Rhyne – door prizes drawn after meeting. 108 gifts.
3. Dave Ward with 750 & 1242 – Thanksgiving and Christmas
  - a) Have kicked off fundraising for this year.
  - b) Checks to USO goes to national. Get gift cards or buy the items.
4. Al Pasquale – Blankets for veteran families
  - a) He has three blankets made by the Sisterhood at Bethel Myers Synagogue in Raleigh.
  - b) Ray has found at least one family.
5. Bill Brown – July 10<sup>th</sup> honor of fallen veterans in 1100 at town square in Wake Forest, 301 S Brooks St. There are two Marines being honored, Mary and Tom Perrone who were members of Air, Land, NC Det #1257.
6. Frank Christmas – backpacks for life program detachment 1242 have given out 126 packs so far. These are for homeless veterans.
7. Denny Mathias – 2025 will be the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Marine Corps. They will put emphasis in cities throughout the country. Charlotte region is one of them.
8. Rick Thomason – MED NVC announces his candidacy.

**EE. Announcements**

1. National Convention registration – Register ASAP (bring a copy to confirm registration) details at <http://www.mclnational.org/> for link to the convention site for events and pricing.

**FF. Recessing of the Meeting per Ritual until the Banquet at 1800**

1. Remarks by Cmdt. Ledford
2. Singing of the Marines Hymn
3. Sgt. at Arms - Retire the Colors
4. Chaplain – Closing Prayer and closes the Bible – Lisa Ciesielski

1600 - Sgt. at Arms declare this meeting in recess until the opening ceremony of the Department Banquet tonight.

2023 MOY – Doug Ross, Detachment 1209

2023 AOY – Keven Ashton, Detachment 983