

Commandants Message

October 19, 2019

Marines,

October is here and it feels like Fall has finally taken over. My wife and I were discussing just the other day that Christmas will be here before we know it. In just a couple of weeks our clocks will change, and we will head into daylight savings time. With the days seeming to fly by our detachment has been steadily busy. In September, several of our detachment members participated in the Travis Manion 5K while others manned the detachment tent. We met so many Marine veterans who came up to the tent wanting to know more about the Marine Corps League. It's amazing how many never knew there was even a league, or a detachment right here in Richmond. Hopefully, with becoming more active in the public eye this will change.

This past weekend we had our Department of Virginia Fall Conference. I must say the turnout was not as good as I had hoped for. We only had 30 members in attendance with 10 being from the Slay Detachment. Some how we need to get more Marines involved. I have some ideas that I will bring to our Department Commandant. In time, we can all hope to see these numbers climb in the future. With the event in low numbers everyone that stayed at the Hyatt West did enjoy their stay. I am in the planning stages for the May Conference which will be held at the same venue. There will be more information to follow in the days ahead.

The Green Top event was a great success and I want to say thank you to our Senior Vice Commandant Phil Hebner for his efforts in coordinating everything. Several of our detachment officers and members were out there Saturday and Sunday talking with the public. We also have four new applications for membership; look for those Marines joining our detachment soon. There was also a raffle for the two-day event, and we took in a little over \$1,000.00. Thank you to everyone who took the time out of their weekend to help with the event.

So, as you can see we have been extremely busy and now we are gearing up for our Christmas Gala. I must say things are going extremely well and tickets are being sold as we speak. At this time, I believe we have sold approximately 60 tickets and have a lot more to go. This dinner will be held in the new auditorium and will get you in the Christmas spirit. We have lined up a great meal and entertainment by Shane Crews. If you remember Shane did our detachment video honoring Dr. Heilman. He is also a magician and puts on a wonderful performance.

We will also have Santa Claus making his rounds so make sure you bring your Christmas list. Hopefully, everyone has been good all year and not on Santa's naughty list. If you are interested in attending, please see Jim Ralls for the tickets. We only have one more meeting, bring your money to the October meeting. This event is open to detachment members, family, friends, EVERYONE! I want to pack the auditorium with as many people as we possibly can. Let's work together to have a great time and dinner.

Well that is all for now just wanted to give everyone a quick update on our detachment. Thank you, Marines, for all your hard work to ensure this detachment LEADS THE WAY! I know that is an Army Ranger saying, but we will use it for now. Lastly, please keep Cecil McNair, his family, Dr. Heilman and his family in your prayers. As well as anyone who has suffered a loss or is sick. Prayers work miracles Marines and we need the Lord's healing hand.

Semper Fi,

Mark Moore

Commandant