

## Commandants Message

January 19, 2020

Slay Marines,

I hope this message finds everyone in great health and prosperity as we have reached a new decade. Our detachment is off to a great start, and I am excited to see the events and special outings we have planned for 2020. Last year, our detachment did an outstanding job with recruitment, and we even held our first annual Toys for Tots Christmas Gala. If you were unable to attend this event you really missed something extraordinary. I was very pleased with the turnout and everything ran smoothly. Thank you to everyone who helped plan. Without you it couldn't have been done!

This year in 2020 we plan to coordinate something different so keep your ears open in the months ahead. I believe this year the Slay Detachment will be our best year, and we have hit the ground running. The detachment financial and fundraising committee has already met and discussed this year's budget and fundraisers. As many know, it takes countless hours to coordinate events and budgeting, and these committees have done a tremendous job.

We will start to pick up speed after our January meeting, and I hope everyone is ready for a little work. With our detachment continuing to grow every hand is needed. In February, we will have the opportunity to see a live fire exercise with Hotel Battery 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion 14<sup>th</sup> Marines at Fort Pickett, VA. This exercise is scheduled sometime in the later part of February and your Senior Vice Commandant Phil Hebner will be coordinating this event. Unfortunately, we cannot open this up to everyone in the detachment so be on the lookout for Phil's email. The quicker you sign up the better to secure your seat.

In May, we will host the Department Conference which will be held at Lakewood Manor on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Please make plans to attend this two-day event. We will have this event off site this year, and we will be trying something new in hopes it will draw more attendance. Also, we will have our department election of officers. If you would like to serve as an officer within the Department, please see me or Past Department Commandant Jim Barrett. We will be glad to assist you.

With our detachment continuing its efforts and gaining new membership. I am sure we will have more Marines joining our ranks and with that more opportunities and ideas will come. As we continue in the months ahead think to yourself what you can contribute to this detachment. **YOU** are the James M. Slay Detachment #329 and we stand together as Marines. Without you our detachment doesn't move forward. If there are any ideas, events, or opportunities you think we can benefit from, please bring those up at the next meeting. Let's work together for the betterment of this great organization.

Until then....

Semper Fidelis,

Mark Moore, Commandant