



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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SEPTEMBER 2023

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Marines & Auxiliary Members:

SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday **September 7th at 7:30** (our usual time.) Join us at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica, always on the first Thursday of the month. The telephone number to the Post is (586) 731-9833.

DETACHMENT AND AUXILIARY BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER



Clement Buck
Carl Chupa
Michael Dahm
Jackie Dennis
Dawn Griffith
James Grime
Edward Mader
Gene Meredith

Paul Rangel
Terry Rigley
Gordon Schick
Howard Schulte
Mark Spooner
Bradford Steensen
Steve Whitfield
Will Wiggins

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank all that helped to participate in the Iron Man 5K and the Gasoline Alley events. I understand they were a great success. Please continue to support our events by promoting our participation.

I want to touch on two other things. The first being the Golf outing. I think we are now up to 16 golfers; we have some time to go before we might have to cancel the event. I am sure most have seen the email from Don Lyon about this.

The second item is to give an overview of the different positions for the upcoming election of officers.

The elected officers of the Detachment are:

Commandant: Presides at all meetings, appoints officers that may be deemed necessary and directs and controls all activities of the Detachment in such a manner that will bring credit upon the Marine Corps League. Attends the Department of Michigan Convention, Mid-Winter Rally and Staff Meetings and reports back to the membership on the business conducted.

Senior Vice Commandant: Presides at meetings in the absence of the Commandant and is responsible for recruiting new members and retention of membership.

Junior Vice Commandant: Presides at meetings where the Commandant and Senior Vice Commandant are not in attendance and is responsible for social activities of the Detachment.

Judge Advocate: Performs legal duties as are assigned by the Commandant. Shall rule on any disputed point of order at meetings.

Adjutant: Keeps proper minutes of all meetings of the Detachment and is custodian of all records of the Detachment other than Special Committees and financial records.

Paymaster: Keeps all monies accounted for including special funds for the Detachment. Is responsible for any updates or correction of member's records with the National Headquarters and the Department of Michigan.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Preserves order at all Detachment Meetings and ensures that all is in readiness for meetings.

Chaplain: Conducts prayers at all meetings and memorial services. He should visit all members of the Detachment who are having an extended stay in the hospital or are in ill health for extended periods of time.

All other officers are appointed by the Commandant elect. Some appointed positions may be, but are not limited to:

Quartermaster: Purchases and sells unique Gung-ho merchandise,

Honor Guard Commander: Contacts members of the Honor Guard for an occasion that we are invited to and ensures that all equipment is present at the occasion.

Newsletter Editor: Publishes the Newsletter for the Detachment and is responsible for informing members of any function sponsored by the Detachment on a timely basis.

Historian: Acquires and displays at meetings, artifacts, memorabilia, pictures, etc., depicting the history of the Detachment.

Steve August, Commandant

IRON MIKE 5 K RESULTS

Several Marines from the detachment volunteered for the fifth annual 5k walk/run to honor the memory of PFC Michael Giannattasio and to raise money for special needs programs/therapies. We were able to meet other Marines serving at the event such as a veteran who came to help set up the memorial wall on display as well as the local recruiter from the Richmond recruiting station. We hoped to do some effective recruiting ourselves for the Marine Corps League.

The detachment had more visible advertisement this year with our logo printed on a banner being displayed near the registration station and raffle tables. Additionally, our members were sure to wear shirts that represented the detachment for runners to see as they passed by those of us who were posted along the trail to guide them or provide hydration.



Dozens of runners and walkers completed the race and received a finisher's medal after crossing through a giant bulldog head, which was the unique finish line of this event. The weather turned out to be perfect and it seems a good amount of money was raised for charity.



UTICA'S GASOLINE ALLEY

On August 12, '23 the city of Utica held their annual car show, swap meet and gas show. Mike Hall and the Young Marines and staff participated and the Young Marines assisted the American Legion with their raffle drawings at the end of the show.



AUXILIARY NEWS

It's membership time again. Most of our members are Life Members, but those of you that aren't, it's time to pay your annual dues. Annual dues are \$35 a year. Make your check payable to "MCLA Macomb County" and mail it to:

Irene Spooner
MCLA Macomb County Treasurer
39869 Duluth St.
Harrison MI 48045

Upon receipt of your dues, your new membership card for 2023-2024 will be mailed to you. If you have any questions, please call me 586-775-4849.

Right along with our membership renewals, it's time to elect our new officers. It's easy to think you can't do the job and thus, not step up to the plate. However, we're all in this together and we're here to help our officers get the job done as we always have in years past. We'll talk about this at our upcoming meeting in September. Our installation is in October, so we need to address this now. The real question is, "Do we want our Auxiliary to continue, or do we let it fold?"

Our annual picnic at the beginning of August was a real success. The weather was beautiful, and the food was the best. We are so fortunate to have American House cater this event. Our Auxiliary presented Roxanne and her group (pictured below) with a Certificate of Appreciation and our warmest thanks.



Gary Titus and his M274 Mechanical Mule



Christine, Maureen, Irene, Alice, Elaine

As you can see from the pictures, it was fun socializing with each other and that makes for a stronger Detachment and Auxiliary.

It's hard to think about November when the thermometer tells you it's 80+ degrees outside, but it's never too soon to start planning for our annual Marine Corps Birthday party. This year it's Friday, November 10, so mark your calendars and plan to be there. Feel We're all proud of our Marine Corps traditions and always happy to share them with others. As always, we'll have the requisite **SOS** that everyone looks forward to, or just about everyone. It's a combination potluck/catered event.

The Detachment provides the entre and we ask everyone else to bring a dish. What to bring? Bring side dishes like cheesy potatoes, or macaroni and cheese. Salads, either fruit or vegetable, are always a good choice. Everyone loves a good dessert, too. Mark your plates and utensils so you can claim them at the end of the evening. The Auxiliary is having its Charity Basket Raffle and as always, there will be a beautiful array of baskets and prizes. We're still accepting donations for the raffle: liquor and wine, gift cards, new or gently used kitchen, workshop or decorative items, patriotic items and the like. Bring your donations to our September, October or November meetings. If you have any questions, see me at the next meeting or call Irene Spooner at 586-466-5708.

Sick call: Please keep the following Auxiliary members in your thoughts and prayers: Shirley Cichoski, Joan Pfaff and April Tilton. When one of us is down, we all come together in prayer for you. We send Shirley, Joan and April our most sincere wishes for healing and better health.

See you at our next meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 7:30 pm. Semper Fidelis.

Irene Spooner
Treasurer, Macomb County MCLA

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

DID YOU HAVE AN EMBLEM CEREMONY?

Introduced by General Charles Krulak in 1996, the Crucible was designed to orient recruit training around realistic combat training scenarios. It is 54-hour test at the end of the training cycle that creates a condition of physical and mental adversity to test whether the recruit's training has been effective.

At the end of the Crucible the recruits are given their Eagle, Globe & Anchor emblem by their Drill Instructor. Many videos on YOUTUBE document this event. It can be very emotional. Check it out.

Let me flashback to my summer of 1969. Our utilities did not have the USMC on the breast pocket.

One day near the end of boot camp, one of our DI's brought out an ironing board and an iron. He had a stack of "iron on" stencils with the breast pocket emblem. We lined up and carefully applied the emblem to the left breast pocket of our utility shirts. For me, the shirt felt brand new. This moment linked me to all those that came before, I can't let them down.

But you know, DI's can put a damper to a special moment. This one (his name escapes me. The last two weeks we got two new assistant DI's, the others got their own platoons) reminds us that if it wasn't for the Vietnam war, a third of us would have been cut. We should be grateful that there was a war and the opportunity to wear the emblem.

Side story. While I was on mess & maintenance week during boot camp, I was sent to the warehouses to work. The supply sergeant had us open boxes of utility uniforms, and lo and behold, all of the shirts had the black and gold strip above the breast pocket that said "US ARMY". The sergeant gave each of us a razor and told us to carefully "cut that s*** off".

Greg Pawlik
Detachment Historian

September 23, 2023. Detachment GOLF OUTING fundraiser to acquire a Michigan Track Chair (all terrain wheelchair) for a disabled Veteran Timberwood Golf Club, 23700 31 Mile Rd, Ray, MI 48096

September 23, 2023, Michigan Parkinson Foundation. 2023 Metro Detroit walk. Jimmy Johns Field, Utica Michigan, Register here:
<https://secure.qgiv.com/event/2023metrodetroitparkinsonswalk/>



MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
 Department of Michigan
 Marine Corps League
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 14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313-5325

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Junior Vice Commandant	Available	(xxx) xxx-xxxx	Junior Vice President	Loretta Balderson	(810) 392-2590
Judge Advocate	Christine Tonegatto-Salo	(586) 801-0081	Judge Advocate	Christine Tonegatto-Salo	(586) 801-0081
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Change of Address: Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:

14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313
 Or email to Macomb.marines@gmail.com

New Address (please print):

Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____