



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



Steve August, Detachment Commandant – (586) 823-4454 – email: wildone48038@yahoo.com
Maureen Ailor, Auxiliary President – (810-310-6081) – email: maureenailor52@gmail.com

JULY 2023

Elaine Arnold, Newsletter Editor – (248) 606-2600 email: elaine48178@gmail.com
Detachment WEB Site: www.macombmarines.com

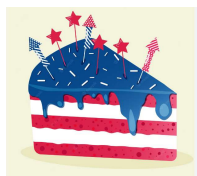
Marines & Auxiliary Members:



Clinton Grove cemetery, 5/28/2023

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday **July 6th 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 JULY



Frederick Gillick
Nancy Haase
Roger Hamilton
Alan Hartung
Joseph Kowalski
Don Lyon

Joseph Narone
Edmond Page
Vince Pellerito
Dave Peltier
Tom Smith
John Tinsley

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

First, I want to thank all that helped and volunteered their time on Memorial Day. It was a great turnout for both Clinton Grove cemetery and the Utica City event. Please continue to support the events as best you can.

I went to the State convention in Lansing and as you all know the membership dues went up for Lifetime Members, doubling in the amount. I was told as of 6-20-2023, we had 8 new full lifetime members.

We have the Golf outing coming on Sept 23rd please try to request a sponsor or foursome to get the funds we need to support a veteran with the track chair.

Please let me know what other fundraisers we can do besides the golf outing. I had heard of other detachments doing breakfast options on Sat or Sunday.

Jazz or Blues night, we can work with the American Legion post.

AUXILIARY NEWS

The Department has a new raffle where you can buy a ticket for \$20.00. There will only be \$10,000 tickets being sold Statewide. The prizes are as follows:

1. Vehicle of choice up to \$50,000.00 (TT&L) included
2. \$5,000.00
3. \$1,000.00
4. \$500.00

***** (Cash Option \$30,000.00) The detachment that sells the winning ticket gets \$2000.00. The drawing is May 16th, 2024.

Here's the Rules:

1. The winner must be 18 years old and have a valid Social Security number for the 1099 form.
2. Tickets must accompany payment for them to be eligible to win.
3. Make check payable to Dept of Mi, MCL

FAQ's about the raffle....

Can the winner pick a vehicle over \$50k? NO, this isn't a down payment.

If the winner picks a vehicle less than the maximum amount, do they get the rest in cash? No, the raffle is for a vehicle, and they get a vehicle. The amount of the vehicle is what it is.

Are the taxes at the end of the year part of the winnings? No, initial taxes are covered, no other taxes.

Can the winner use a private seller for the vehicle? No, they must pick up at the licensed dealership.

Does the seller of the ticket win anything? Only if they sold the ticket to themselves. We as members took an Oath not to profit from the League. If you sign out tickets, you are liable for the tickets. So, if you sign out 20 tickets you are liable for \$400.00. *Steve August, Commandant*



HONOR GUARD

I am looking to expand the honor guard to provide a 4 Marine Color Guard, 3 to 7 Marine Rifle detail and numerous alternates to support both. If interested, contact Frank Petricevich, fpetricevich@gmail.com or (586) 531 5726

The League will pay for part of your uniforms. See me for more info.

There are so many distractions during the summer months, the warm weather, picnics, festivals, vacations and so much more, it's hard to keep track of deadlines. Summer goes by so quickly, we all want to enjoy our outside time to the fullest, so bear with me if I miss getting our info and news into the Skuttlebutt as quickly as I should.

Here's a recap of events we did in May.

Our first ever Armed Forces Day Meat Raffle was so much fun and family friendly, too. It was a lot of work for us, but overall it was a great event and a real success. This was the first meat raffle for many of us, so it was a learning experience as well. Besides raffling off packages of meat, there was a basket raffle and a lottery raffle. In between the meat rounds, cans of meat and tuna were raffled off. It was hilarious seeing how excited people were over winning two or three cans of Vienna sausages.

All this crazy fun helped raise money for us and Women's Life, Chapter 911 who co-sponsored the event. We want to thank Women's Life for all the help and guidance they provided. Thank you to all the attendees and thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this possible. As was mentioned, this was a learning experience for us which will help us greatly if we decide to do this again as a future fundraiser.

With most of the COVID restrictions lifted, the Detroit VA was able to host its Baby Shower for pregnant women veterans and women veterans with toddler children at the Bruce Post VFW in St. Clair Shores on May 20, 2023. Our Auxiliary delivered two car loads of donations to the VA for the shower. We were finally able to use the \$500 in gift cards obtained by President Maureen Ailor from Meijer to buy boxes and boxes of diapers and Auxiliary Member Loretta Balderson was able to get bags and bags of handmade blankets and baby clothes from the women in her quilting guild. Our



Auxiliary was able to make a sizeable donation and Volunteer Services at the VA was truly grateful. Thank you to Detachment Member Mark Spooner and Loretta's son Robbie Balderson for driving us and the donations

to the VA. Unfortunately, the baby shower and the meat raffle were on the same day and as you know, you can't be in two places at one time. Hopefully next year we'll be able to attend the baby shower and get a first-hand look at this wonderful event.

The Memorial Day ceremonies at Clinton Grove and at the Veterans Wall in Mt. Clemens were well attended by Detachment and Auxiliary members. Many of those same members attended the ceremony in Utica as well. Memorial Day is a solemn day of remembrance and it's important for us to set an example to the next generation of veterans and civilians alike. If any branch of the military holds traditions dear to them, it is the Marine Corps and by the same token, the Marine Corps League & Auxiliary. Thank you to all who attended and helped preserve the meaning of this solemn day. Just as a reminder, mark your calendars for Saturday, November 11, 2023 for Veterans Day which is another day of ceremonies that honor those who served.

I mentioned summer is a time for picnics at the beginning of this article and that means our annual Detachment and Auxiliary picnic is right around the corner. Typically we plan this for the first Saturday of August which this year is August 5. We'll discuss the particulars at our July meeting, so be sure to attend. The food and company is always the best at our picnic, so "be there or be square!"

Besides the picnic, we'll be discussing upcoming projects we have planned for the fall. President Ailor has plans for giving flag presentations in area schools. This sounds like a wonderful way to instill a true sense of patriotism to our school kids. Also, we'll discuss possible locations and dates for our Auxiliary Rose Days.

See you at our next meeting on Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Irene Spooner
Treasurer, Macomb County MCLA

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

HOW LONG WAS YOUR BOOTCAMP?

I'm a big YOUTUBE watcher. I pretty much focus on military videos of all the services. There is a youtuber that has many military videos. His series of videos can be found under "JAMESONS TRAVELS". He's a former Marine that served during the late 80's – early 90's. One video had him commenting on boot camp during the Vietnam war. He remarked on the shortened period (8 weeks) many of us experienced during that time, saying that the quality of recruit was not as good based on this shortened training cycle. That ticked me off. So, I decided to do some research. Here's what I found.

WORLD WAR II

Prior to WW2, boot camp was 8 weeks. In June of 1939, President Roosevelt ordered all of the services to increase manpower in expectation of our involvement in Europe. The Marine Corps was to increase troop numbers quickly to 25,000 and reduce boot camp to 4 weeks! The rest would be on the job training. Results were very poor. In January 1940 it was bumped up to 6 weeks.

Listed here are the changes that occurred during the war.

January 1942 – reduced to 5 weeks

March 1944 – increased to 7 weeks

July 1944 – increased to 8 weeks

KOREA

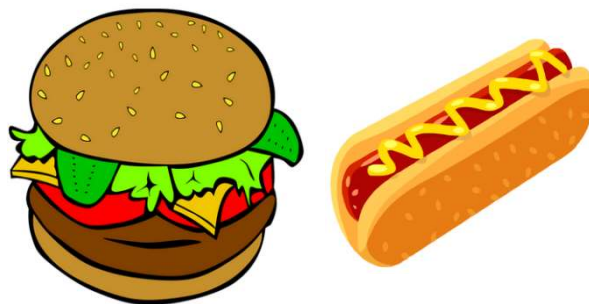
Prior to the Korean war, boot camp was 10 weeks. For a period during the conflict, it was reduced to 8 weeks, but by the end it was back to 10 weeks.

VIETNAM

In the years before Marine units were sent to Vietnam, boot camp was 13 weeks. From 1965 to 1970 it was lowered to 8 weeks.

Greg Pawlik, Detachment Historian

August 5 –



Joint American Legion / MCL Picnic

More Details to follow

September 23, 2023, Michigan Parkinson Foundation. 2023 Metro Detroit walk. Jimmy Johns Field, Utica Michigan, (4 man Color Guard)



MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
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 Mailing Address:
 14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313-5325

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Commandant	Steve August	(586) 823-4454	Auxiliary President	Maureen Ailor	(810) 310-6081
Senior Vice Commandant	Dean Miles	(586) 457-7008	Senior Vice President	Alice Lyon	(586) 216-0523
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
Adjutant/Paymaster	Don Lyon	(586) 532-8225			
Chaplain	James Dewey	(910) 333-2224	Chaplain	Joan Pfaff	(586) 263-3448
Sergeant at Arms	Justin Kane	(248) 750-7046	Secretary	Sharon Renaud	(248) 217-9558
Editor, Newsletter	Elaine Arnold	(248) 606-2600	Treasurer	Irene Spooner	(586) 466-5708
Honor Guard Commander	Frank Petricevich	(586) 531-5726			
Quartermaster	Dean Miles				
Deputy Quartermaster	John Sternicki	(586) 468-1014			
Historian	Greg Pawlik	(586) 979-2986			
Web Sergeant	Don Lyon	(586) 532-8225			

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 _____

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Phone _____

Email address _____