



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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 OCTOBER 2021
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OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE

The next in person General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday **October 7 at 7:00 pm (1900.)** A half an hour earlier due to Installation of Officers. Join us at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica. The telephone number to the Post is (586) 731-9833.

DETACHMENT AND AUXILIARY BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER

- Elaine Arnold
- Jeffrey Draksler
- Benny Gaglio
- Angelo Lema
- Robert Long
- Ardith Schwerin
- Wendy Succarde
- John Sych
- Gary Titus Jr.



NEW MEMBERS REPORTING IN

At the August meeting three new members were sworn in to the Detachment.

Welcome Aboard!



Amber Blumenthal, Thomas Samuel, James Grime

Amber Blumenthal:

After years of accompanying my Father "Blu" Blumenthal to Detachment meetings and functions, I joined the Detachment as an Associate member after the passing of my Dad in July. While not a member of the Marine Corps myself, I want to continue to support the Marine Corps family that I have made over the years.

The support that I have received from my Marine Corps family, specifically from members of this Detachment, has been appreciated. This continuation of involvement helps keep my Fathers' spirit alive and also continues to teach me new things, keeping the importance of those serving, at the forefront in my life.



I work in the automotive industry as Purchasing & Logistics Manager and have attended Walsh College of Business in Troy, in pursuit of a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. I am interested in Law, Criminal Justice & Social Work; all interests, maybe one will further develop.

My favorite memory of my dad at the



Detachment, is him shouting off the winning ticket numbers from the raffles. When looking for these photo's I came across a video clip I took of him - yelling the winning ticket number off, if you were present for this, then you know what I mean when I

say he was loud and gathered everyone's attention. I miss him a lot of course, and these memories are sweet.

Thomas Samuel: I joined the Corps in July of '74 and got my Honorable discharge in '89, I am a 100% DAV. One of my most memorable units was 2nd ANGLICO.



Tom Samuel

James Grime: 6 yrs. in the Corp. 15 in the US Army. Retired. I served in all 3 Divisions. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Vietnam Vet. 69 – 70 1st Hospital Company, 1st Marine Div. Also 1st Medical Battalion.

1st Marine Div. Danang, Vietnam: Provided security for doctors and medical personnel. When through the Danang area into villages and other places to render medical personnel security so they could help villagers and other wounded and ill children. Body guard for commander.

Camp Pendleton: Driver Instructor, licensing official, Trainer and all-around jar head. Love the Corps.

2nd Marine Div. Camp Lejeune: 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines. Battalion Landing Team (BLT 2/2) Floated off Jordan for 45 days to rescue 2000 American civilians. Jordan had second thoughts and air lifted Our people out of there. The 8th Marines of 10,000 came to back us up! Also, the Battalion Motors at the camp.

1970 Air lifted to Quonset point Road Island for Riot control to pretty boys in college afraid to even think about acting out like Kent State.

3rd Marine Div: Supply activities, Motor Transport Instructor, Licensing official, weapons controller, to many other jobs.

Division Motors, Camp Hanson, Fuenma, Camp McTureous, Camp Scwab, Camp Foster/Butler.

After I left the Corps in Apr 1974 they got me back until 1977 sometime.

Army: Instructor and communications chief. Many assignments. I'm sure you don't want the whole Army side.



Jim Grime

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines,

At our October meeting we will be inducting officers for the coming year. Uniform will be the same, red shirts, black trousers, MCL cover.

I want to thank all members who worked on the Golf outing that made it huge success. Thanks again but don't let your guard down. We have to put together our Marine birthday party which we will be celebrating on **November 9th** at the Legion this year due to a conflict with bookings of the hall on the actual birthday November 10th. Consequently, enjoy an extra day to celebrate the birthday of our Corps!

Then Veterans Day on the 11th at Clinton Grove cemetery, the usual with our color guard except we are hosting the event so we will be doing everything including the rifle volley and speaker. See you at our next meeting

Semper Fi
Norm Pfaff, Commandant

AUXILIARY NEWS

Installation of Officers takes place at our next meeting in October. We are grateful to the following members for stepping up to the plate and accepting the officer positions as follows:

President: Loretta Balderson
Sr. Vice: Maureen Ailor
Jr. Vice: Alice Lyon
Treasurer: Irene Spooner
Secretary: Maureen Ailor
Judge Advocate: Christine Tonegatto-Salo
Chaplain: Joan Pfaff

The October meeting will begin at 7:00 pm, a half hour earlier than usual. The uniform of the day is white blouse or shirt, black pants and your Auxiliary cover. The Auxiliary installation ceremony will be first on the agenda followed by the Detachment. After the installation ceremonies are finished, the Detachment is providing a casual dinner. The Auxiliary is asked to bring either an appetizer or dessert. The rest of the evening is spent congratulating the new officers and socializing.

The John D. Dingell VA Hospital in Detroit has a baby shower for the women veterans every year. This year the Auxiliary is spending \$200 for baby diapers to donate. Besides the diapers, a number of items have been donated and collected by our members.

Laura Grime, wife of Detachment member Jim Grime donated 18 hand-knitted items such as baby blankets and sweater and pants sets. Auxiliary President Maureen Ailor received a donation from her DAR group and President-elect Loretta Balderson has bags of donated items from her quilting group as well.

We'll be making a trip to the VA on September 23d, 2021 to deliver the baby items. It's always a good feeling to help our veteran community and their families. This is another way to say "Thank you for your service."

November is fast approaching and that means it's time to plan for our Marine Corps Birthday. There's a big change this year in that we will be celebrating the Birthday on November 9, 2021. Yes, we have always celebrated it on November 10th, but this year for reasons beyond our control, the Detachment voted to celebrate it on **November 9th**. It was either move the location of our party away from the American Legion Post or move it up a day to November 9th. The hall at the American Legion Post where we have our monthly meetings was not available on November 10th. Since it would really up the cost of the party to move it to another location, the date of the party was moved to **November 9th** So,

mark your calendars accordingly and pass the word to all interested parties.

Getting ready for the Marine Corps Birthday Party also means the Auxiliary is collecting donations for our Basket Raffle. It's the Auxiliary's biggest fundraiser of the year. We are looking for bottles of liquor and wine. Also needed are items such as small kitchen appliances, tools, sports equipment, and decorative items. Gift cards make a great raffle prize, too. Non-perishable foods items are needed like candy, nuts, crackers, gourmet specialty items and the like. And last but not least, we accept cash donations, too! If you have any questions about donations, please contact Auxiliary Treasurer, Irene Spooner at 586-466-5708.

Annual dues are due at this time. Currently, the yearly dues are \$30. Bring them to the next meeting which is on Thursday, October 7, 2021. Remember the next meeting starts at 7:00 pm because of the Installation. See you there.

*Semper Fidelis,
Irene Spooner, MCLA Treasurer*

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings Marines,

I pray this newsletter finds you well. As I have passed in the past several meetings, I am currently in Oregon for two months learning a little more about working on bicycles. Rest assured you will be in my prayers and I am only a phone call away if you need to discuss anything.

My wife and I have been planning for my time away much like we did when I was about to deploy. We have talked about as many of the "what ifs" as we can. What if something happens with the a/c, what if there is an emergency, what if I get eaten by a bear. We also have a plan in place in case of the big what if, something happens and I don't make it home.

At our last meeting I prayed for the families of our recent members who have passed away. For those in attendance, we also discussed League members having the what if conversation and letting family members know what and how your Macomb County Marine Corps League Detachment can help remember you if you are called by the Supreme Commandant for duty guarding heaven's streets.

Often family members are surprised to find out that the Detachment is available to conduct a funeral ritual because their Marine never told them about it. Many of you may not like to think or talk about this sort of thing, but please know that I am available

if you would like to discuss any aspect of how we can support you now or in the future.

I will be back in November and look forward to celebrating our Corps' birthday with each of you. Until then be safe and Semper Fidelis,

*Jim Dewey
Detachment Chaplain*

**STERLING HEIGHTS MEMORIAL GARDEN
NAMED IN HONOR OF DETACHMENT MEMBER**

In July, the Sterling Heights City Council voted unanimously to change the name of the Veterans Memorial Garden to the Marco "Mike" Adragna Veterans Memorial Garden. Mike, who died in 2010, was a Macomb County Detachment member and ardent supporter of Veterans causes. Mike was the driving force behind the creating of the monuments for those who served, on the Sterling Heights campus.



GOLF OUTING GREAT SUCCESS!

The Detachment held its 1st golf fundraiser on Sept. 18th benefitting Detachment 154 charities.



33 Golfers completed the course at Leaning Tree in Wales Township.



Pictured here is Barb Astor, the winner of the pistol donated by Patriot Firearms.



Registration Table with goody bags

The success of this event would not have been possible without the assistance of these great Detachment member volunteers: John Sternicki, Mike Hall, Norm Pfaff, John Myroniuk, Angelo Lema, Don Lyon, and Rick Kincaid.

The team that won with the lowest score of 63 was James Gray, Dave Miller, Scott Rowkowski and Jordan Bowe. They each won \$50.00

The amount raised for this well-planned event was an amazing **\$5070.00**, thanks to all our sponsors and donors!

Our Event Sponsors:

Northern Concrete Pipe	Brian Bush
Exco Extrusion Dies	BarbAstor.com
Grandma's Speed Shop	Cadillac Asphalt
3 Dimensional	

Hole Sponsors:

M-3 Surplus	Bruce Hartung
Legion Post 351	Brian Bush
Detroit Performance Center	Cadillac Asphalt
Pamar Enterprises	Nothing But Bundt Cakes
3 Dimensional Services	Mancini Racing
Bagnasco & Calcaterra	Funeral Home
Whiskey Alpha Chapter	Leathernecks M.C.

Special thanks go to our host Mike at Leaning Tree, which was a very accommodating venue. Nick from Patriots Ammo & Arms LLC for the raffle of a Pistol. Barb Astor for the goodie bag contents and good bags. Carl's Golf-land for their tees for those bags. The Nothing But Bundt cake donation for bundt cakes for a whole year to the winner for the longest drive on the first hole, Jordon Bowe; Macomb Community College for donating MCC backpacks, pens and notepads; also, the other great items that were donated for gift baskets by DSC and countless great individuals.

Additionally, "First Command" sponsored the hole in one challenge by offering \$10,000.00 for a hole in one on hole #11. Sadly, no one was able to pull that off but what a great offer.

Steve August for the Golf Outing Planning Committee



COMMANDANT-ELECT MESSAGE

I hope this finds all in good health. This is a first for me to be in a position like this, so please bear with me. I am sure to make mistakes but I will try to do the best job I can.

We have some great ideas that we want to roll out to try and increase membership in our Detachment as well as our presence in the community.

We just had our first golf fundraiser and it was a success. I would like to thank everyone involved in all aspects of the fundraiser from planning to execution. I heard from many of the participants that they were impressed with what we had and are looking forward to next year.

The election of officers took place at the September meeting with the following results; installation takes place at the next meeting October 7th.

Commandant: Mike Hall
Sr. Vice: Steve August
Jr. Vice: Norm Pfaff
Judge Advocate: Christine Tonegatto-Salo
Adjutant/Paymaster: Don Lyon
Sergeant at Arms: Clement Buck

All other appointed positions remain the same
Newsletter Editor: Elaine Arnold
Honor Guard Commander: Ron Hudas
Quartermaster: Dean Miles
Deputy Quartermaster: John Sternicki
Historian: Greg Pawlik
Web Sergeant: Don Lyon

Semper Fi, Mike Hall
Commandant-elect



MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
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 Sterling Heights, MI 48313-5325

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Senior Vice Commandant	Mike Hall	(586) 604-4834	Senior Vice President	Loretta Balderson	(810) 392-2590
Junior Vice Commandant	John Myroniuk	(586) 739-1929	Junior Vice President	Sherri Teeples	(586) 292-8132
Judge Advocate	Christine Tonegatto-Salo	(586) 801-0081	Judge Advocate	Joan Pfaff	(586) 263-3448
Adjutant/Paymaster	Don Lyon	(586) 925-5010	Co-Chaplain	Wendy Succarde	(248) 930-8230
Chaplain	James Dewey	(910) 333-2224	Co-Chaplain	Delores Tonegatto	(586) 781-6839
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Web Sergeant	Don Lyon	(586) 925-5010			

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 _____