



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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JULY 2018

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Marines & Auxiliary Members:

JULY MEETING NOTICE

Due to the 4th of July Holiday, the next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday July 12 at 2000.

Join us at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica. The telephone number to the Post is: (586) 731-9833.

Adjutant/Paymaster

Notice to members that pay their dues annually. Membership expires on September 1, 2018. I will be sending out renewal notices this month. Please have dues to me no later than August 5th. Dues are \$32.00 per year.

Life membership dues are as follows.

___ 35 and under	\$500
___ 36 to 50	\$400
___ 51 to 64	\$300
___ 65 and over	\$200

If you would like to become a life member and cannot afford the dues please speak with me and we can work out a payment plan.

Donald Lyon
Adjutant/Paymaster

AUXILIARY NEWS

Our July meeting is pushed back to Thursday, July 12, 2018 due to the Fourth of July holiday. Hope all Auxiliary members can attend.

We'll be discussing the upcoming picnic on Saturday, August 4, 2018. It's a relaxing afternoon with great food and company.

We had a good representation at the Memorial Day ceremonies at Clinton Grove and downtown Mt. Clemens. This is a wonderful way to show honor to our fallen heroes and remind the public the cost of freedom. The weather cooperated meaning it didn't rain. Afterwards we went to the American Legion, Post 4 on Groesbeck in Mt. Clemens for lunch and camaraderie. If you couldn't make it this year, make plans to join us in 2019. This is an annual event for the Detachment and the Auxiliary.

Semper Fidelis
Irene Spooner
Secretary/Treasurer
MCLA-Macomb County

50/50 Attendance Drawing

Buck Clement won the 50/50 drawing at the June meeting.

The attendance raffle would have been won by Mary Merritt had she been present.

2018 Election of Officers

Nominations for Detachment officers begin at the September meeting. Are you willing and able to serve?



MCRD SAN DIEGO CHANGES OVER TIME – PART 2

As promised, I am back on track with the history of MCRD San Diego. This chapter covers the Korean War and cold war period.

Official recognition occurred on 1 January 1948. Effective that date, the Marine Base, Naval Operating Base, San Diego officially became the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. With this re-designation, for the first time, the Marine Base was removed from the command influence of the Naval District Commander. The base now came directly under the Commandant of the Marine Corps for all matters and responded to the Naval District Commander only in areas of mutual interest for coordination. Re-designation of the East Coast Recruit Depot at the Marine Barracks, Parris Island, South Carolina, had occurred in December 1946. With the change at San Diego, the two coasts gained a symmetry in Marine Corps organization they did not have before.

In 1948 the armed forces, greatly reduced in numbers of volunteers, found that the required force level strengths could not be maintained. As a result, the return of the Selective Service System and a mandatory military service requirement, had its effect upon the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. In 1948, a 2nd Recruit Training Battalion had to be formed to handle the increased influx caused by the return to the draft. In May, this amounted to 1,500 new recruits. This level of input remained fairly constant until 25 June 1950 when the Korean War erupted in Asia. After only a short pause for peace, Marines again prepared for battle in the Orient.

The Korean War placed an urgent need for combat troops upon the defense establishment. To meet those needs, President Harry S. Truman ordered the mobilization of Reserves in 1950. The Marine Reserves descended upon both the Recruit Depot and CampPendleton, to prepare for quick deployment to the battle zone. While this provided the initial troop levels needed for manning a full strength Marine division for immediate combat duty, the personnel pipeline needed to maintain such a force in Korea could not be provided by Reserves alone. To fill this requirement, expansion of recruit input began and the Recruit Depot once again found itself called upon to do yeoman service in an emergency. Short of training units and facilities, the recruit training battalion expanded from three to eight with the new 4th Battalion forming on 26 January 1951 and the last, the 8th Battalion, activated on 18 January 1952. Each Battalion had, at least on paper, 25 platoons of 75 recruits each. To house, feed, and train that many

recruits, additional major construction had to be requested and did receive Congressional approval.

The Korean War came to an end in September, 1953 and the need for increased numbers of recruits slowly came to a halt. No longer required, the 2nd through 8th Recruit Training Battalions deactivated by January 1954 and their missions assumed by the 1st Recruit Training Battalion.



MCRD San Diego, circa 1953

Effective 2 January 1960, the Recruit Training Commands became Recruit Training Regiments. This new command, "RTR", received the mission of scheduling, coordination, supervision, and inspection of recruit training. To accomplish the task, three battalions of three companies each came under RTR command. The companies each had three series commanded by Lieutenants who supervised the training of four platoons, each with 75 recruits. This organization proved practical and efficient and has remained unchanged since established.

Other major training requirements developed during the Korean War that had major and lasting effects upon the continuing development of the San Diego base. In January 1950, the largest of the Marine Corps formal schools moved from CampPendleton to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. Originally known as the Signal Schools Battalion, the school had been training Marine communicators since World War II. As the Marine Corps changed its training needs to fit the current requirements, the name of the school became the Communication-Electronics Schools Battalion. The re-designation became effective on 1 October 1953. The three main schools within the battalion; named the electronics, operational communications, and communications material schools, contained a total of 18 courses involving radar and radio. By 1970, the battalion consisted of those schools, an amateur radio station, and an electronics repair shop.

- SOURCE Fahey, John Edward (1974). *History of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at San Diego 1911-1974*, Masters Thesis, History Department, [University of San Diego](#). Retrieved on 2006-06-30.

Greg Pawlik
Detachment Historian

MCL Postal Shoot, Detroit Sportsman Congress
 Wednesday, September 12, 2018.

Flag Day at Wal-Mart 2 days scheduled. July 14 and August 11. 1000 to 1500 each day volunteers needed, contact Christine Tonegatto-Salo.

If you have clean, used **clothing** please bring them to our next Detachment Meeting and Norm Pfaff will get them to the Vets either at the John Dingell Hospital or at the "Vets Returning Home." Also they are in need of **books**, so if you have any old books in good condition bring them in with the used clothing and he will get them to needy Vets.

Volunteers needed to help with Bingo at the VA on the 4th Thursday of every month. Bingo starts at 7:00pm (1900). Speak with Norm Pfaff for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL VETERAN'S PICNIC

Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 46146 Cass Avenue, Utica, MI 48317

The 3rd annual bike charity ride is taking place on August 4th, the "**Cycle Rally to Benefit Veterans**," at Stoney Creek Metropark. 8am-Noon

The ride starts at Stoney Creek Metro Park Boat Launch. This year's ride is 30+ miles with 5 stops on the bike path. Bagels, bananas and Gatorade will be available.

Entry fee is \$20.00 per person...Entry fee includes lunch at the American Legion Post 351. This event is being held in conjunction with the Marine Corps League and American Legion Veterans Picnic at 46146 Cass Avenue, Utica, MI 48317

Donations are most welcome. All proceeds will be used for Veterans in need.

Any donations can be sent to Norm, checks should be made out to:
 Marine Corps League Det # 154
 c/o Norm Pfaff
 17892 Pointe Court
 Clinton Township, Michigan 48038

MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
 Department of Michigan
 Marine Corps League
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

Mailing Address:
 14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313
 Macomb.marines@gmail.com

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 Detachment and Auxiliary. SKUTTLEBUTT Newsletter is a
 non-profit monthly publication for the use of the Macomb
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Junior Vice Commandant	open		Junior Vice President	Sherri Teeples	
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Change of Address: Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:
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 Macomb.marines@gmail.com

New Address (please print):

Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____