



The SUNFLOWER "SCUTTLEBUTT"

Official "Mouthpiece" of the Department of Kansas, Marine Corps League April 2017
Editor: Jan Denney PO Box 2175 Salina, Kansas 67402-2175
E-mail: jadenney@cox.net

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS 2016-2017

COMMANDANT: Jan Denney
e-mail: jadenney@cox.net

SR. VICE COMMANDANT: Joe Hughes
e-mail: jmhughes@everestkc.net

JR. VICE COMMANDANT: Thomas Huxtable
e-mail: tshux@cox.net

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Bryson Allen
e-mail: OldDD59.69@gmail.com

ADJUTANT / Paymaster: Harvey Harris
e-mail: harveyharris@att.net

CHAPLAIN: Robert Patterson
e-mail: robertpatterson@kc.surewest.net

SGT. AT ARMS: Eldon "Doc" Holsey
email: docfmf.70@gmail.com



Commandant Jan Denney

Greetings,

I and most of my staff are standing for re-election however Jr Vice Commandant Tom Huxtable has chosen not to run for re-election as Jr Vice. If any member in good standing desires to run for this or any Department Office, contact Jr. Past Commandant Eldon "Doc" Holsey
docfmf70@gmail.com
316-774-0752

A Department Staff meeting was held in Salina on 21 January. The main topic of discussion was the 2017 National Convention in Overland Park beginning 13 August. Convention Chairman Joe Hughes presented an overview of Convention and Department of Kansas offered its full support.

On 21 February, I had the honor of serving as the Installation Officer at the Installation of the Tri Rivers Detachment Officers in Salina.

I attended the Midwest Division Spring Conference in Beatrice, NE. on April 21-23. There are a lot of good being done in the Midwest Division and several on-going issues to be corrected. Please read the Adjutant / Paymaster's and the Judge Advocate's articles highlighting important issues brought forward at the Division Conference.

Commandants – Complete your *Report of Installation* document the night of your installation and send to the Department Paymaster. Insure that all blanks are complete and correct and the document is signed by the Installing Officer. This document provides all levels of command with Detachment's contact information, amount of detachment dues and IRS information. *Complete with correct information* and eliminate errors later.

Semper Fidelis,
Jan Denney 785-826-5087



Sr. Vice Commandant Joe Hughes



Jr. Vice Commandant Tom Huxtable

The 2017 Marine Corps League National Convention is fast approaching, seems like yesterday we started the planning process. Three and a half months to go.

NO REPORT

Semper Fi,
Tom Huxtable

The first week of May the 2017 MCL National Convention website will have a link to our eCommerce website for purchasing tickets to the specific convention local events. The Sunday evening Early Bird World War I Museum Tour and Dinner start a great schedule of events. **If planning on attending any of the events please register early as some have limited seating.**



Adj. / Paymaster Harvey Harris

In an effort to say thank you to local Marines currently serving in the Kansas City area we are asking Detachments and individuals to donate a seat at the Friday evening Grand Banquet and Dance for the Marine and a Guest, total donation for one Marine and Guest is \$100. Secondly, this will provide a face to face opportunity to introduce the Marine Corps League to these Marines.

Greeting Paymaster's, your duties as the Detachment Paymaster will soon to become a lot less time consuming. After June 1 all member renewals will be due again September 1 of the next year. In other word's you will get a total of 14 months for the price of 12. After 1 September 2017, all non-life memberships become due on the 1st of September of each year. Members will not have to wait until September 1 to renew, you may do so at any time after June and it will not affect the due date, this will allow the Detachment Paymaster to complete all renewals without being swamped by the new 1 September due date. After September 1, all cost for membership renewals will go back to the regular amount normally charged by your detachment. The current membership for the Department is 368 members, with 207 being Life members. 73 members are overdue.

Donation Website:

<http://www.2017mclnationalconvention.com/marine-sponsor.html>

Donation Checks: payable to "2017 MCL National Convention Corporation", Attention: Joe Hughes, 8021 Hall Street, Lenexa, KS 66219

Convention Website:

www.2017mclnationalconvention.com/

Semper Fi
Joe Hughes,
Sr. Vice Commandant
2017 MCL Local National Convention Chairman

In addition, on July 1 your 990 and Secretary of State Not-for-Profit become due for renewal and Life Member Audits using the June 30 National Roster list of your Life members may be completed. The Paymaster and Detachment Commandant review and sign them as being correct, forward them to Department. By completing the three items early, and assuming your Detachment Officer Installation Report has been completed and sent to Department all you have remaining will be new members, hopefully this will keep you very busy.

National Marine Corps League News update.

Currently, National is in the process of hiring a new Chief Operating Officer (COO) this function will be to cover the normal operation of the Marine Corps League. Replacing the current National Paymaster's position with a "book keeper" accountant. This position will be responsible only for the financial aspect of the Marine Corps League. The position now does not have a final name but it will not be National Paymaster. This position will work with the National Comptroller and Assistant Comptroller and be answerable to the Board of Trustees. The current budget figures are available and a vote to accept will be at the 2017 National Convention, in Overland Park.

By-laws are in the process of being revised, from the current 257 or so pages down to about 24 – 28 pages. All other items will be moved to the Procedures and Administrative Section. By-laws will continue to be approved by the floor vote at the National Conventions and the Administrative and Procedures will be approved by the Board of Trustees. Should prove to be a lot smoother in the everyday operation of National Headquarters. National is in the process of obtaining a standalone database to house member information. This will allow the Department Paymaster to enter all member information, again we have been advised that each member will be able to change his/her, name, address, phone number and e-mail address. The Department Paymaster will have the ability to enter payment for the member dues by check or in time by credit card.

NOTE: If paid by credit card the total amount will be charged to the card and National will refund to the Department and Detachment quarterly the amount due for fees the Department and the Detachment receive. (Records will have to be complete and accurate for this to be painless.) For non-life members, I need to know if you have received your membership card from National. If you have not, give your information to your Detachment Paymaster, I ask that he send the information to the Department Paymaster and we will get you a current membership card from National. I also request if members have not furnished their current e-mail address to the Detachment Paymaster do so for all renewals, if an email address is not available the Department Paymaster will have to notify the member that

his/her membership is due by snail mail. Remember, September 1, 2017 all non-life memberships will be due. Additional information on how this will work and when it will go into effect shared, when received.

The National Convention being held in Overland Park August 13 - August 18 will allow an opportunity for all members to attend a National Convention that is close by and become part of the operation of National by casting your vote on the floor. Registration forms have been received by detachments, make sure you fill out the form with members that would like to attend. Another reason will be the election of National Officers. Wendell Webb, the current National Sr. Vice Commandant, past Midwest Division Commandant is running for National Commandant. Wendell is a retired Senior Scientist at Boeing and resides in Missouri. With a business back ground, Wendell will be able to update the Marine Corps League to a modern efficient functional organization. Don't forget the Department Conference will be 3 June 2017 in Wichita.,

Happy New Year to all
Semper Fidelis,
Harvey L. Harris, NVC
Department Adjutant / Paymaster
PO Box 67582
Topeka, KS 66667-0582



Judge Advocate Bryson Allen

With the close of the Midwest Division Spring Conference I have two items to bring to your attention.

(1) Any article of clothing or other item custom made with the EGA on it. The USMC has copyright on the Logo and will enforce any unauthorized use of it. If you want shirts, caps, coffee cups, etc, made with the logo make sure the supplying company has a license from HQMC before you order. If they do not you could lose your order and be in violation of Federal Copyright

laws. To be safe either purchase from vendors who are licensed or check with HQMC before ordering.

(2) There is a total re-write of the National By-Laws in progress as we speak. The current document will be shrunk to about 22 pages or so and most of what we now call the By-Laws will be integrated into the Administrative Procedures. This is being done to bring the League into compliance with IRS Rules governing a 501c4 organization. Because most of your Detachment By-Laws use reference(s) to the National document yours will require rewrites also. We will have more on this at the Department Convention in early June and more email as info becomes available.

Please let me know if you have questions concerning these issues or any other subject concerning By-Laws.

Semper Fidelis,
Bryson L. Allen



Chaplain Robert Patterson

As we approach Armed Forces Day (May 20th) and Memorial Day (May 29th) it is only right that Americans pause from their daily routines to reflect on these two days. Armed Forces Day is the day that we recognize those who serve our country in uniform. Memorial Day, previously known as Decoration Day, is the day set aside each year to remember those who have served and made the ultimate sacrifice during their service.

Let us, as Marines, support and promote these days of recognition. Our country has asked much of our military over the years. Let us, who served, honor those who serve now and remember those who laid down their lives for American ideals, peace and for their brothers and sisters in-arms.

This year America commemorates the 100th anniversary of its entrance into World War I. Our world was forever changed by the decisions and actions taken by our leaders. So, it seems fitting that we again hear the words from a faraway battle field. Words composed by then Capt. John

McCrae, of the Canadian Medical Corps, on May 3, 1915, one day after the loss of his dear friend and former student, Lt. Alexis Helmer, in combat.

In Flanders Fields



by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Detachments: Report all membership deaths utilizing the *Notice of Death* forms. Complete the form; keep 1 copy and mail the balance to:

**Department Chaplain Robert Patterson
14323 Marty Street,
Overland Park, Ks. 66223-2290.**

The Department Chaplain will forward the forms to National. Following this procedure ensures that the Department, National and Semper Fi magazine are correctly informed of your member's death.

Semper Fidelis,
Robert Patterson

Department Chaplain



Department of Kansas Detachments

Mount Suribachi Detachment #105

Meets 2nd Tuesday at 1900 hours
VFW 620 A St
Smith Center, KS 66967
Phone 785.695.2357

NO REPORT

Semper Fi,
Larry Thompson, Commandant

Tri Rivers Detachment #730

Meets 3rd Tuesday at 1900 hours
VFW 1108 W. Crawford
Salina, KS 67401
Phone 785.826.5087

The Tri Rivers Detachment elected officers at the January meeting and Department Commandant Denney installed the new officers at the 21 February meeting. The officers for 2017 are:

Commandant – Randall Carlson
Sr. Vice Commandant Larry Cushenbery
Jr. Vice Commandant Alvie Furbeck
Judge Advocate David Eberhart
Adjutant / Paymaster Jan Denney
Chaplain Ronald Styles
Sgt. At Arms David Nichols
Jr. Past Commandant Donald Johnson

The Detachment honored John R. Gallagher at the 21 February Detachment Meeting. Jack is retiring after 26 years of continuous years as Sgt At Arms for the Detachment. Jack, a retired Marine Corps Master Sergeant, is a Charter Member of the Detachment and a Life Member of the Marine Corps League.

Semper Fidelis,
Jan Denney, Adjutant / Paymaster

B. Gen. William A. Kurtis / SEK Detachment #612

Meets 3rd Sunday at 1830 hours
VFW Post 1186 113 E Myrtle
Independence, KS 67301
Phone 620.331.1874

Our Detachment has been meeting and trying to sign up new members. We will take part in the Memorial Weekend ceremony at the Mound Valley Cemetery on May 27th. This is a tradition as we've done it for years.

We held our election and Tony Cook will again serve as Commandant, Charles Davis as Sr. Vice Commandant and Dale Meadows as Jr. Vice Commandant Darla Fullerton will be Chaplain as we lost our beloved Charter member James Scott to death. Dan Dollison will remain as Paymaster. Jim Brown will serve as Judge Advocate and Kenton Holloway, Sergeant at Arms. Installation will be at our May meeting.

We are going to have a fund raiser on June 17th with a pancake and sausage breakfast from 8 to 10 AM.

Semper Fidelis,
Dan Dollison, Adjutant/Paymaster

Gen. Lewis W. Walt Detachment #682

Meets 4th Thursday at 1900 hours
VFW Post 1650
Topeka, KS 66604
Phone 785.273.2149

Our Marine Corps league have been very busy these last few months. We had gone to the range a couple of times, then the owner of the range shut it down until the spring season. About the time we were to shoot again our range master, Dick Allison passed away. We are now trying to find a replacement for him. We have roses for one time but are having a hard time getting more. Our meeting this Thursday will be our installation of Officers. We are looking for a successful year coming up. See you all next term.

Semper Fidelis,
Paul McGuire
Commandant

Gen. Larry Oppenheimer Detachment #1025

Meets 4th Wednesday at 1900 hours
VFW Post 7397
9550 Pflumm Road
Lenexa, KS 66215
(913) 492-1199

2017 is off to a great start finding detachment #1025 members involved in many different committees, projects, and fundraising events as we get ready to host the 2017 National Convention. !! January kicked off with our first fundraiser at Rawhide Harley Davidson's Aloha Bike night, followed up two days later with the annual Rawhide Weekend Luau. This was another successful fundraiser for our detachment. Also in January, we held our Toys for Tots luncheon at Granite City restaurant where we celebrated another successful Toys for Tots drive. The final count of toys collected for 2016 was 39,212, making 2016 one of our most successful years!

In February, we held our 2017 Marine Corps League Convention Golf Day Fundraiser at Topgolf. It was a huge success as we collected \$5,600 for National Convention expenses and \$900 Devil Dog Bones for Children's Mercy Hospital. Many of our league members worked hard at Topgolf and at our February fundraiser at Rawhide Harley Davidson, both held the same day. There is no way we could be involved in so many events were it not for the support of the Detachment #1025 league members.

March 3rd the 72nd Iwo Jima Memorial Ceremony was held at Leavenworth National Cemetery. Detachment #1025 member, Jerry Ingram, was the individual who organized this very important ceremony and is himself a veteran of the battle of Iwo Jima. Jerry's dedication to the Marine Corps, his service during World War II, and his continued service through Detachment #1025 is an inspiration to myself and all our league members.
Semper Fi,
Ken Fain
Senior Vice Commandant

Air Capital Detachment #773

Meets 3rd Tuesday
Social Time 1830

Meeting 1900 hours
American Legion Post 4
816 North Water St
Wichita, KS 67203
Phone 316.641.8076

The Kansas wind has moved the Air Capital Detachment meetings to the American Legion Post 4 in downtown Wichita. Before our third Tuesday monthly meeting Post 4 hosts a hamburger/fries cookout for us. We have had four "younger" Marines join, our Jr. Vice Irona Cliver has been busy recruiting!

In February after a successful pistol raffle we ordered a 22-foot trailer (powder coated red of course) to be built to look sharp in local parades. Sadly, we have heard Taps for two of our Brothers. Our Honor Rifle Squad had the privilege of saluting at one of the funerals.

As Commandant, I presented awards at our May meeting. Jimmy Woods received, and well deserved, the highest award authorized by Detachment, the Distinguished Citizen Bronze.



Jimmy Woods

Receiving the Distinguished Service Bronze were Tom Huxtable, Doc Evans, Gene Taldo, Alan Daniel and Kirk Peckenschneider. Individual Meritorious Commendations to Claude Donham and Bob Buckel. Recruiter of the year was Doc Holsley who in addition to a commendation and ribbon received \$100 credit in our ships store. All of the elected and appointed officers were given appropriate certificates of appreciation for their dedicated service.



Lt. General Buck Bedard

At this meeting our guest of honor was Lt. General Buck Bedard who spoke on the future of the Marine Corps League and the importance of recruiting Marines to join. His talk was followed by installation of officers.

Saepius Exertus, Semper Fidelis, Frater Infinitas
Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever
Semper Fi,
Rick Pustka, Commandant

Edwin A Schumacher Detachment #740

Meets 1st Tuesday at 1930 hours
American Legion
1305 Canterbury Drive
Hays, KS. 67601
Phone 785.628.3067

The Edwin A. Schumacher Det. in Hays met last month and held its installation of officer's ceremony. Commandant Bob Munsch was re-elected to another term and all other officer's positions remained the same as well, other than member Kurt Sell was installed as Judge Advocate.

Our meeting location could be changing sometime in the near future as the American Legion building in Hays is for sale. The legion is looking to buy or rent a newer building in Hays. More on that later this year.

We have a couple events in the works. Our detachment is holding a "\$plit the Pot" raffle with the drawing to be held on Memorial Day. The detachments half of the whole proceeds will go towards a worthwhile charity later this year. Our detachment will also be participating in the Wild West Festival parade on July 1. Two years ago, we won first place in the Patriotic event.

League members were issued MCL polo shirts to wear to meetings when authorized, or just around town to let others know our league is here to stay and is active.

Semper Fi,
Asher C. White, Chaplain



Marine Corps League
Department of Kansas Attendees
2017 Spring Midwest Conference
Left to Right (Front Row) John Byrnes, Tom Huxtable, Donna Hughes, Harvey Harris, Eldon "Doc" Holsey and Joe Hughes.
(Back Row) Jan Denney, David Eberhart and Bryson Allen.



THE MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS



PDD Eldon "Doc" Holsey
Worthy Pack Leader
Kansas Pack
The Military Order of the Devil Dogs

WOOF-WOOF ALL YOU DAWGS!

Greetings to the Pack!

For those of you who did not attend the Midwest Division Spring Conference, it was a great time for all. It began with a "Cold Morning", on Friday, for golf and many individual braved the chilly day and played 18 holes. Registration began at noon for the rest of the attendees.

Our Division leader, Honorable Harvey Harris, met with all the Division Commandants and a lot of information from the different states was

exchanged. The joint conference was attended by all and more information was exchanged.

On Saturday, our own National Senior Vice Commandant, Wendell W. Webb gave us a lot of information that pertained to National in Arlington, Va. Changes are coming in the future and Wendell is the Marine that can make that happen.

After the business portion was completed, the "Growl" got down to business. We were all very businesslike with very little "Tom Foolery" going on. (Now, if you believe that, I have a bridge across the Mississippi River for sale!) All the dogs participated and fun was to be had by all. The fines ran ramped. Even yours truly, Pack Leader of Kansas, fined himself 16 BIG BONES; plus 4 more Big Bones in the pot. We did have a serious note of a couple of Dawgs that were unable to attend due to their fight with Cancer and our prayers go out to them in their fight to WIN!

We did collect, with the aid of Iowa Pack Leader George Kline, we made 127 Big Bones at the sign-in and the fines collected added up to 202 Big Bones. Also, we now have two new PUPS and one new DEVIL DOG for the Nebraska Pound. Congratulations to all three and welcome aboard.

Now, down to our business concerning the Department Conference on 3 June. We have rooms available at the hotel. Now pay attention: currently the hotel was called the "Airport Best Western"! They have been purchased by another hotel chain and the name is changing. I just got off the phone with our contact, Amy, and she said the new name is coming later this week. As soon as I have that name, I will get it to our "Wonderful Most Generous Very Exciting Department Commandant Jan Denney and get the name out to all. We do have the rooms at the same rate as previously published. If you need a room contact Amy or anyone at the front desk (316) 942-5600 to have a room available. Make sure to tell them you are with the Marine Corps League Conference. Also, for the Memorial Ceremony a bus will be available to take all who attend the conference to Veterans Memorial Park and return to the hotel.

WOOF-WOOF!
PDD Eldon "Doc" Holsey

Kansas Pack Officers 2016-17

Pack Leader: PDD Eldon "Doc" Holsey
docmf70@gmail.com
316-774-0752

Dog Robber: PDD Harvey Harris
harvey.harris@att.net
785.640.6077

Sr. Vice: PDD Dan Dollison
Jr. Vice: PDD Harvey Harris
Smart Dog: PDD Tom Huxtable
Dog Trainer: Vacant
Mad Dog: DD Alvie Furbeck
Police Dog: DD Joe Hughes
Watch Dog: DD John Byrnes
Barking Dog: PDD Jan Denney



TAPS

Willis D. White - General Lewis W. Walt
Detachment #682 12/30/2016

Richard D. Allison – General Lewis W. Walt
Detachment #682 03/14/2017

Ed Beaman, Jr. – General Lewis W. Walt
Detachment #682 10/16/2013

George L Walker – Gen. Larry Oppenheimer
Detachment #1025 5/3/2012

Donald W Stewart – Gen. Wm. Kurtis -SEK
Detachment #612 Unknown

TAPS information is from Death Notices received by the Department Chaplain as submitted from each Detachment.

Marine Corps History

15 April 1962: Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War began on Palm Sunday when HMM-362 with its Sikorsky UH-34s arrived at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon. The task unit was called "Shufly" and its first operational employment involved lifting Vietnamese troops into battle.

12 June 1961: President John F. Kennedy signed a Presidential Proclamation calling for the American flag to be

flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, "at all times during the day and night." Discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier in 1961 on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument led to the proposal to fly the Flag continuously, which by law could only be done by Congressional legislation or by Presidential proclamation.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Department of Kansas State Conference 3 June 2017

Best Western Airport Inn and Conference Center
6815 W. Kellogg Drive Wichita, KS 67209
(316) 942-5600

Uniform of the Day MCL Cover Polo Shirt Khaki Trousers

There is no registration fee for Conference.

0800 – 0900 Registration and Breakfast:

Breakfast: \$10.00 / person, payable at the door

0900 – 1200 Business Meeting

1200 – 1300 Lunch:

Lunch: Sandwich/Salad Bar \$12.00/person, payable at the door

1300 Business Meeting Continues (if needed)

Devil Dog Growl Follows Business meeting

Note: Call the hotel direct (316) 942-5600, if overnight room is wanted. Ask for Marine Corps League rate \$74.99 Free breakfast included with room.



2017 National Convention August 13 – 19, 2017 Overland Park, Kansas Convention Website

<http://www.2017mclnationalconvention.com>



Scuttlebutt and Booster Club

To join the Booster Club and Support the Scuttlebutt, remit \$5.00 per year. Make your check payable to Department of Kansas, MCL and mail to: Dept. of Kansas Paymaster PO Box 67582 Topeka, KS 66667-0582

If you know a member who is not receiving the email addition and would like to be added to the email address list, have them email a request to jadenney@cox.net

WEBSITES

Department of Kansas Website

<http://www.mcleaguekansas.com/home.html>

Midwest Division Website

<http://www.midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org/>

MCL National Website

<http://www.mclnational.org/>

Send photos to jadenney@cox.net.

Next Scuttlebutt Deadline is 10 July 2017

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!