



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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FEBRUARY 2020

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Marines & Auxiliary Members:

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday February 6th at 7:30 pm (1930)

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 BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY



Robert Dybowski
Eric Essau
Michael Giffer
Donald Moeller
Stephen Patercsak
John Sternicki
Richard Succarde
Gerald Susko
Gary Titus

JANUARY MEETING

At the January General Membership Meeting, Marine Al Opra would have won the Attendance Raffle of \$8.00 had he been present and paid his 25¢. The next attendance raffle award, as usual, depends on the number of members present.

The Attendance Raffle works like this – when you arrive at a meeting, you sign-in and put 25¢ into the kitty. You have an attendance number assigned to you based on when you joined the League. After the meeting a number is drawn and if the member is present, they would receive the total amount in the kitty. If not present, it rolls over to the next meeting until

someone present wins. Another good reason to attend the meetings!

The Detachment also holds a 50/50 Raffle at each meeting. The amount of winnings depends on the number of tickets sold. Tickets are priced at \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. The 50/50 raffle supports the publication and mailing of this newsletter.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

For those members who pay their membership on an annual basis, maybe you should think about Life Membership. For the Life Membership Option: you pay one time and are a member for life. Life membership fees are based on age and are as follows:

Age 35 and under \$500.00
Age 36 to 50 \$400.00
Age 51 to 64 \$300.00
Age 65 and up \$200.00

With your Paid Life Membership, you will receive a metal Life Membership Card, Lapel Pin and a Certificate suitable for framing. You may select Life Membership at any time as long as you are a member in good standing (dues up-to-date). We have a payment plan for those that do not have the money available for a lump sum payment for Life Membership.

If you are interested in Life Membership under this plan, or have any questions on membership dues, contact the Adjutant/Paymaster for details.

I WANT YOU!
for the
Marine Corps League



Those who belong..
have the respect of a Nation
The loyalty of their own
and the pride of being a part of
history

MACOMB COUNTY RITUAL TEAM

Scott Metcalf of the MC Ritual Team addressed the membership at the January meeting. The Macomb County Ritual Team is a Veterans Honor Guard, Its' mission is unique as it performs Final Military Honors only! The ritual team does not perform Color Guard functions such as posting colors at sporting or community events, nor does it march in any parades or participate in any political activity. It is made up of volunteers from Veteran Service Organizations throughout Macomb County. Scott Metcalf is the Commander of the Ritual Team and he appealed to the membership for volunteers to support the mission. The Ritual Team provided 104 services in 2019. Scott can be reached at his cell 313-418-7609. Check out the team's FB page Facebook.com/ritualteam



Commandant Norm Pfaff and Scott Metcalf

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines

It was brought to my attention when I talked about the Color Guard that many of the Marines didn't know where to go to buy Trousers, shirts or shoes. Go to Marines Store Quantico and follow the directions. I personally just took my blues that I wore when I was in the Corps off the hanger and WOW!!!! they still fit. Looking around the Detachment, It appears that most of the Marines will have to buy new trousers and shirts. The first parade is Sterling Heights in May. I'm contacting the Young Marines to march with us, Scott Neff w/ bag pipers, and we need one vehicle to

transport those who need a ride. Ron Hudas might need an assistance. I'll Volunteer.

I want to thank James Dewey (Chaplain) Mike Hall (Sr. Vice Commandant) and John Myroniuk (Jr. Vice Commandant) for volunteering to call our embers to see how they are feeling and to see if there is anything they need. Behind the scenes, we had great support from Don Lyon who put together a complete roster to call from. Thanks Don.

Talking about rosters, we are the second largest Detachment in the state. Flint #155 has 156 members, Macomb #154, 133 members is second, 3rd is Belcher Lane #146 with 113 members, fourth is Downriver #153 with 102 members. I can accept being second, but I want to be the best. That can only happen if we all pull together. We need your ideas and help to do that.

Every Marine is a rifleman when I was in the Corps, but in today's world, every Marine is a rifle person. To look to the future, our spring fun shoot is scheduled for Saturday April 18th, @ 1000. We will talk more about that at our next detachment meeting. Don't be afraid, we only shoot @ 100 yards. My D.I. said What!!!!!!! damn son, you can throw a rock that far.

Norm Pfaff
Commandant

MARINE DOWN

John Sottrel died on December 18, 2019, He was at his home with his daughter. Per John's wishes, he was cremated and there were no services at the funeral home.



He will be interned at the Great Lakes National cemetery in Holly Michigan on March 27, 2020 at 1:30 in the afternoon. There will be a reception following the ceremony at the Holly American Legion post. 408 S Saginaw St, Holly, MI 48442.

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Once a Marine, Always a Marine!

MEET YOUR DETACHMENT LEADERSHIP

This month starts a new feature, introducing detachments officers. This month we feature Junior Vice Commandant and newcomer, John Myroniuk and Chaplain James Dewey.

Junior Vice Commandant John N. Myroniuk is a retired member of the U.S. Armed Forces with 27 years, 11 months, and 28 days total service time. Starting his military career in the USMC and moving on like so many others, he got the itch and rejoined the U.S. military service, serving in various MOS's and receiving numerous Letters and Awards. He completed several military and staff courses along with civilian education at Macomb Community College and the Detroit College of Business. Currently serving as Junior Vice Commandant, John is looking forward to assisting the detachment with its future endeavors and continued successful accomplishments.



John N. Myroniuk

Past Junior Vice Commandants: 2010-11 Jerry Allen, 2011-13 James Szczesny, 2013-15 Craig Brozowski, 2015-17 Dean Miles, 2017-2018 open, 2018-19 Michael Hall, 2019-2020 John Myroniuk

Role of Junior Vice: The JVC is responsible primarily for the recruiting and retention of members. Activities include introductions for new members, working on various committees, events, awards, meeting

programs as in the bringing speakers/topics to the membership.



James O. Dewey

Chaplain Jim Dewey was born at the Naval Academy into a Marine Corps family. Jim's father was a gate guard at the Academy and later retired as a Master Sergeant with 23 years of service. Jim was commissioned in 1996 after graduating from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was a supply officer who served in Quantico, Camp Lejeune, and Parris Island. In 2004 with over 8 years of service he resigned his Marine Corps commission and started his studies at Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Alabama. Jim was commissioned as a Navy chaplain in 2008 with his first tour taking him to Iraq with 2D Radio Battalion out of Camp Lejeune, NC. He subsequently deployed with the 22nd MEU to Haiti in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake. Follow-on assignments took Jim to San Diego for two overseas deployments aboard the USS BUNKER HILL, a tour at 8th & I with Marine Barracks Washington DC - the Oldest Post of the Corps, and in the Pentagon on the staff of the Navy Chief of Chaplains. Jim is currently serving as the chaplain with Coast Guard Sector Detroit and Sector Sault Ste. Marie (East). He will retire at the end of 2020 with 21 years of active service.

Past Chaplains: 2010-13 John Sottrel, 2013-14 Greg Rugenstein, 2014-16 John Tinsley, 2016-17 John Sottrel, 2017-18 open, 2018-20 James Dewey

Role of Chaplain: The Chaplain's job is to provide comfort and special service to members and families in time of need, particularly during periods of distress, illness, and/or death. The Chaplain is called upon to offer invocations and prayer for meetings, initiations, installations and for ceremonies. He/she requires the support of the membership to keep the Chaplain informed of situations and issues of need within the detachment.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

PROJECT 100,000 – PART TWO

When you joined up, you took the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT). This test was used to determine one's ability to learn military skills and weed out those who could not. There were 100 questions and you had an hour to complete the test. Here are some examples;

1. Bob wants to buy a wagon. He has 5 dollars and needs 5 dollars more. How much does the wagon cost?
 - A. \$10
 - B. \$15
 - C. \$25
 - D. \$55
2. If 12 men are needed to run 4 machines, how many men are needed to run 20 machines?
 - A. 24
 - B. 48
 - C. 60
 - D. 80

Through some complicated math your score placed you into one of five categories, which corresponded to an IQ level and you could score in Category I (very high IQ) to a Category V (very low IQ). Prior to the implementation of PROJECT 100,000, only Categories I, II, & III were accepted into the Armed Forces. When PROJECT 100,000 was enacted (October 1, 1966 to December 31, 1971) all Category IV and some Category V were acceptable for induction.

Our military leadership and Congress was not at all happy with this, but ultimately had to submit to the program. Included in this plan was Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara's insisting that the lower Category IV & V inductees be given remedial reading, writing, and math education to bring them up to speed with the rest of recruits. None of our Armed Forces had the funds in their budgets to add this into the basic training curriculum.

From October 1, 1966 to December 31, 1971, 354,000 men (all under Project 100,000) were inducted into the Armed Forces, most Category IV and some Category V. Some of the ways Category V persons

became Category IV were outrageous. Changing the scores, having others take the test again for those that scored low, and a loophole called "Administrative Acceptance" was used.

Say for example you finished high school or had some college and you purposely tried to score low. You were deemed a faker and accepted. If you were truly "mentally slow" and had a Category V score, clerks could deem you smarter than you appeared on your test. How could the mentally deficient know they were being railroaded? Many never heard of Vietnam, or could read or write!

Source; Hamilton Gregory, McNamara's Folly: The use of Low-IQ Troops in the Vietnam War (Infinity Publishing, 2015)

Greg Pawlik
Detachment Historian

GOLD STAR FAMILY MONUMENT PROJECT

A project is currently underway for a Gold Star Family Monument in Clinton Township with dedication planned for September. The proposed site is at the Township Office, 40700 Romeo Plank, Clinton Township, MI 48038. Donations can be made online <http://www.hwwmohf.org/monuments/clinton-township-mi.html>



Gold Star Family members and relatives are those who have sacrificed a Loved One for our Freedom. The Gold Star Family Memorial was created by Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams to remember those families who have made the ultimate sacrifice. His foundation aims to establish memorial monuments in as many communities as possible in all 50 states. To learn more about the memorial, visit <http://www.hwwmohf.org/monument-overview.html>



Nov 5 Installation of officers
1930 General Membership Meeting
Nov 10 1500-2000 Marine Corps 245th Birthday Party
Dec 3 1900 General Membership Meeting
Detachment Christmas Celebration



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 14th Valentine's Day



GUESS WHO?

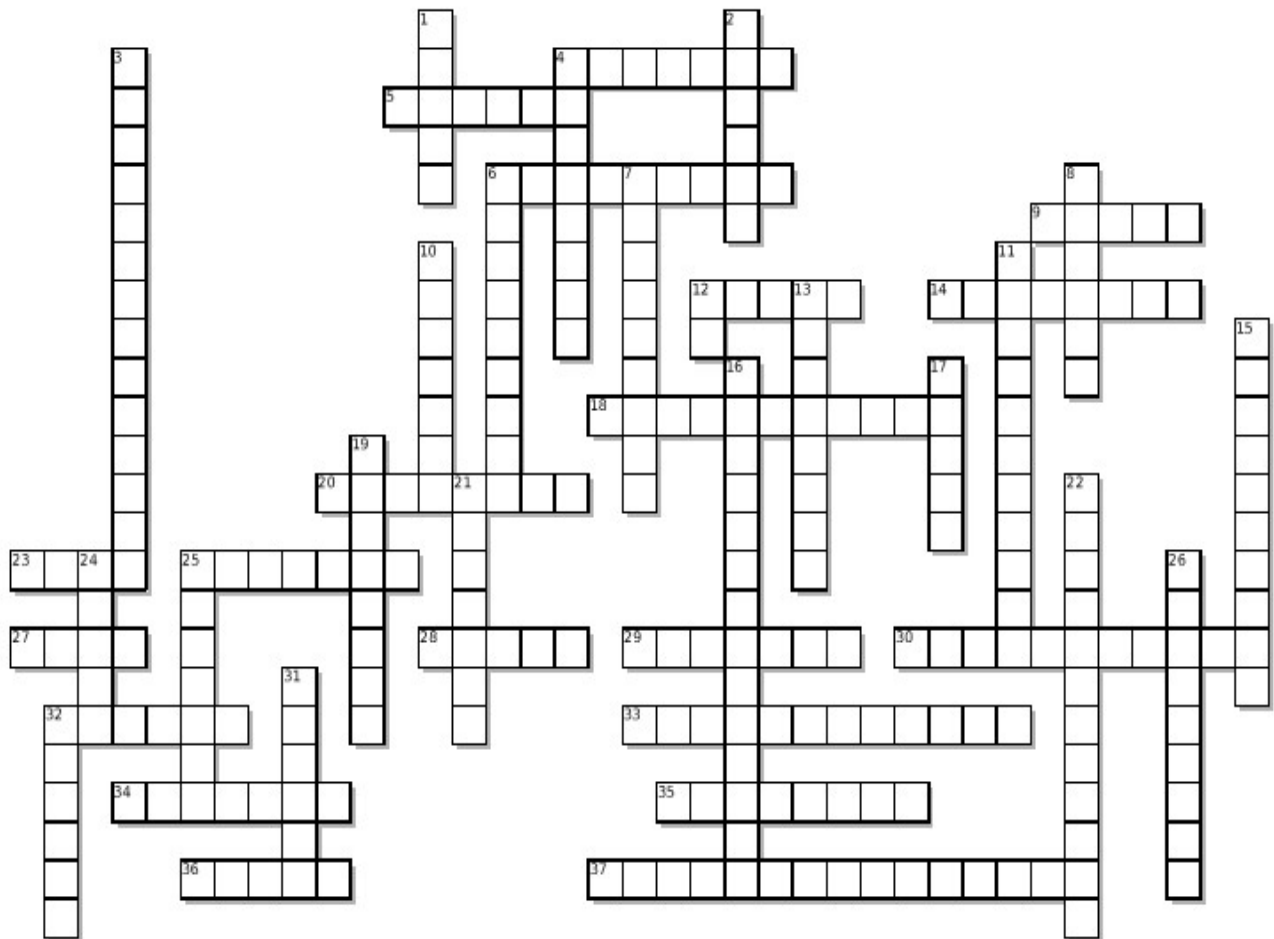


If you guessed Dan Rather, former anchor of the CBS Evening News you were right.. He enlisted in the Marines in 1954 but was discharged for medical reasons before completing boot camp. Because he did not graduate from recruit training, he never actually earned the right to wear the Marine globe and anchor.

Feb 27-29 MCL National Winter Meeting
Norfolk, VA
March 5 1930 General Membership Meeting
April 2 1930 General Membership Meeting
May 7 1930 General Membership Meeting
June 4 1930 General Membership Meeting
July 2 1930 General Membership Meeting
August 6 1930 General Membership Meeting
1st round of nominations
August 4-10 MCL National Convention
Daytona Beach, FL
August tbd Department of Michigan MCL
Annual convention. Flint, MI
Sept. 3 1930 General Membership Meeting
Election of Officers
Oct. 1 1900 General Membership Meeting

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Marines' Lingo



ACROSS

- 4 Being transferred, shipping out or moving to new quarters
- 5 Very enthusiastic and committed
- 6 A unit containing multiple companies, typically commanded by a lieutenant colonel.
- 9 Marine Corps Hat
- 12 Marine fighting knife
- 14 An alert that something is coming at you, often enemy fire or artillery
- 18 Devil Dogs
- 20 sword worn on parade and formal occasions by officers
- 23 Leather personnel carriers ... boots
- 25 the amount a service member earns per month based on rank and years of service.
- 27 Military Jail
- 28 Officers
- 29 hospital, clinic, or medical office
- 30 early motto of the Marine Corps
- 32 a none too bright Marine
- 33 Another term for a haircut
- 34 Another name for a Marine
- 35 Buildings where single Marines live or a duty station where they serve.
- 36 Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- 37 Marines trained at MCRD San Diego, CA

DOWN

- 1 infantry Marine
- 2 DI's affectionate name for a recruit
- 3 Combat Boots
- 4 Recruit Training at MCRD Parris Island SC and San Diego CA
- 6 well done
- 7 Informal command to continue what you were
- 8 Anyone in the U.S. Air Force
- 10 fuel, gasoline, diesel, petrol, etc.
- 11 Rumor; Gossip / water fountain
- 12 kitchen police
- 13 all members of a command
- 15 Shower
- 16 After midnight, but before working hours
- 17 Vacation time
- 19 repeat what you said
- 21 Authorized absence up to 96 hours
- 22 the most decorated Marine in history
- 24 One kilometer or one notch of a rifle sight
- 25 M79 grenade launcher
- 26 Standard Marine haircut
- 31 used by the Air Force to defoliate large areas of forests or jungles.
- 32 a low ranking enlisted Marine.

MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
 Department of Michigan
 Marine Corps League
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Change of Address: Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:

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Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____