

Commandant's Message
February 14, 2020

Slay Marines,

Well, what do you say to the finest Detachment of Marines in the Commonwealth? We have hit the ground running with the start of a new decade. Our Detachment Officers and have been busy planning and coordinating this year's events. I believe this year will be the busiest year thus far. We have already started planning two big events for the Slay Detachment, The Patriots Run 5K and our Detachment's Marine Corps Ball.

Our Junior Vice Commandant, Walter Cornett has already begun working with Kevin O'Connor on the race. It takes many hours coordinating and planning an event like this. If you are interested in helping please contact Walter or Kevin. I know they will welcome all the help they can get.

Your illustrious Paymaster, Fred Marotta and Senior Vice Phil Hebner have been coordinating our 1st Annual Detachment Marine Corps Ball. Thanks to Colonel Joe Wadle, our guest speaker for the event will be Lt. Colonel Joseph Shusko USMC (Retired). If you have not had the chance to hear him speak, you are in for a treat. Phil has been working on the venue and more information will be following in the next couple days. So keep your ears and eyes open!

Next week is our Detachment meeting, and we have a road trip planned to attend a live fire exercise with Hotel Battery 3/14. We will depart directly after the meeting and will be traveling to Fort Pickett, VA. If you are interested in going, please see Phil to have your name on the roster. Transportation will be provided, and the cost will be \$20.00. Our Past Department Commandant, Jim Barrett, is working with Lakewood Manor to see if we can get a box lunch provided for the trip.

In March, we will possibly have the Travis Manion Foundation as our guest speaker. Phil is getting the details together, and we expect to finalize this in the next few days. For April, I have asked James Howard from *Veterans and Athletes United* to come and speak. If you have not heard of VAU, I encourage you to conduct some research. This organization is simply amazing for our wounded and disabled veterans.

Lastly, we will have our Department Conference which will be located at Lakewood Manor. So please make every effort to attend! Fred and I will be traveling to Norfolk to the Mid-Winter Conference on February 29th. If you would like to go, please let Fred know so he can bring enough money to purchase everyone lunch. Just kidding!

I hope everyone is doing well and I look forward to seeing many at next week's meeting. Until then...Semper Fidelis,

Mark Moore
Commandant
James M. Slay Detachment #329
Marine Corps League