



SKUTTLEBUTT
NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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DECEMBER 2023
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Marines & Auxiliary Members:

DECEMBER MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday **December 7th at 7:00 pm., earlier than usual to allow more time to enjoy our Christmas party.** Join us at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica, always on the first Thursday of the month. The telephone number to the Post is (586) 731-9833.

DETACHMENT AND AUXILIARY BIRTHDAYS FOR DECEMBER



Ethan Bartley
 James Borlase
 Richard Bourgeault
 Fred Bullis
 William DiLaura
 Rich Francis

Janice Meredith
 Ray Mrosewske
 Scott Neff
 Sharon Renaud
 Steven Smith
 Christine Tonegatto-Salo

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank all the Marines and there families that came out to support the Birthday celebrations on November 10th. I believe we had around 100 people. It is was a great time talking with everyone. I want to also thank the members that joined in the Ceremony the next day for Veterans Day. We started off with chaos, but as Marines do, we adapted and overcame the obstacles.

Coming up for our next meeting we are having a Christmas party, so please bring your toys. Also, Santa Claus will be there for pics, so if you want to bring yours kids and grandkids please do so with a toy to donate and get pic with old Saint Nick.

Steve August
 Commandant



THE DECEMBER MEETING IS WHEN WE COLLECT TOYS

Please bring an unwrapped toy, we are asking members to bring toys for older children ages 11-14, as there are always a lot of toys for the younger children.

ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER

Ther has been a change to the membership application.

The new membership application is a one-page document, I will have copies of the new application at the December meeting. Annual members, you can now pay your dues for more than one year at a time. \$32.00 x how many years you want to pay.



Honor Guard

December, 2023

I am looking to expand the honor guard to provide a 4 Marine Color Guard, 3 to 7 Marine Rifle detail and numerous alternates to support both. If interested, contact Frank Petricevich,

fpetricevich@gmail.com or (586) 531 5726

The League will pay for part of your uniforms. See me for more information.

On November 14th, the Color Guard presented colors and a flag at PNC Bank, Home for Heroes Run of Show, in St Clair Shores.



2023 Upcoming Events:

December 7, 2023 Christmas party
The Corps needs you to help support these worthwhile events. Sign Up Today!



Honor Guard with the local recruiters

2023 Marine Corps Birthday Party



Oldest Marine Jerry Mize Youngest Marine Justine Kane



The Hall was full.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Our new year has begun. Not the one that starts on the first of January, but our new year that starts with our newly installed Auxiliary officers. Here's our roster of officers for 2023-2024:

Alice Lyon, President

Loretta Balderson, Sr. Vice President

Maureen Ailor, Jr. Vice President

Nancy Haase, Chaplain

Irene Spooner, Secretary/Treasurer

We want to thank all our new officers for the commitment they've made to our Auxiliary. It's a big investment of time and energy, but without which our Auxiliary could not continue. We all look forward to a successful year ahead. Also, a big thank you to the past year's officers. Every installation is another link in our Auxiliary's chain of service to our county, our community and our beloved Marine Corps. We also thank Gerri Tuohy, our installing officer. She has held so many positions at the Department and National level, it's almost too numerous to count. Gerri, along with husband Jim Touhy, the installing officer for the Detachment, made the ride here all the way from Grand Blanc. They took the scenic route to get here, but that's another story.

Our Auxiliary sends congratulations to the new Detachment Officers as well. Part of our mission is to support the Detachment and we look forward to working with the new Officers as the year unfolds.

Our recent fundraiser at Buddy's Pizza was a real success and a delicious one to boot! Our Auxiliary did pretty well, and we thank all those who stopped in on October 18th to dine and support us. Buddy's Pizza is a Detroit Original and we're grateful that they participate in this type of fundraiser. We're thinking of doing this as an annual event. Something to discuss at our next meeting.

It's November and that means two big events are around the corner. The 2023 Marine Corps Birthday Party is on Friday, November 10. This is a fun event for all, but it does mean planning and preparation before and after the event. The Detachment will provide the main course and we'll bring appetizers, side dishes and desserts.

Remember, when bringing a dish, mark your bowls, plates and utensils, so you can retrieve them at the end of the evening. The Birthday Party is from 4pm to 8 pm. Please consider helping with the set-up which is at 3pm and the clean-up after the party is over. These two tasks are so important for this event to be a success.

Our Auxiliary will have its annual Charity Basket Raffle at the Birthday Party. Donations are always needed, so don't be shy. We can use gift cards, small tools and appliances, patriotic items, liquor and wine, non-perishable snacks, candy and gourmet food items, and of course, cash. Please bring your donations to the November meeting. Call Irene Spooner, 586-466-5708 if you have any questions.

The day after our party is Veterans Day on Saturday, November 11. We will have our traditional ceremony at Clinton Grove Cemetery at 11:11 am, immediately followed by the ceremony in Mt. Clemens. More information at the November meeting.

Looking ahead a little further to December, our Christmas Party is on Thursday, December 7. Remember this is our Toys for Tots collection as well. Bring an unwrapped toy to the December meeting/party. More info at the November meeting.

The Auxiliary wishes a Happy Thanksgiving to all our members and their families and to the Detachment and their families as well. We all have so many blessings to reflect upon this time of year, but most of all for the freedom we all enjoy and cherish. God bless all of us and God bless America!

See you at our next meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Semper Fidelis,

Irene Spooner

Secretary/Treasurer

Macomb County MCLA

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

The Marines Hymn

Following the war with the Barbary Pirates in 1805, when [Lieutenant Presely N. O'Bannon](#) and his small force of Marines participated in the capture of Derne and hoisted the American flag for the first time over a fortress of the Old World, the Colors of the Corps was inscribed with the words: "To the Shores of Tripoli." After the Marines participated in the capture and occupation of Mexico City and the Castle of Chapultepec, otherwise known as the "Halls of Montezuma," the words on the Colors were changed to read: "From the Shores of Tripoli to the Halls of Montezuma." Following the close of the Mexican War came the first verse of the Marines' Hymn, written, according to tradition, by a Marine on duty in Mexico. For the sake of euphony, the unknown author transposed the phrases in the motto on the Colors so that the first two lines of the Hymn would read: "From the Halls of Montezuma, to the Shores of Tripoli."

On 21 November 1942, the Commandant of the Marine Corps approved a change in the words of the fourth line, first verse, to read, "In the air, on land, and sea." Ex-Gunnery Sergeant H.L. Tallman, veteran observer in Marine Corps Aviation who participated in many combat missions with Marine Corps Aviation over the Western Front in World War I, first proposed the change at a meeting of the First Marine Aviation Force Veterans Association in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Many interesting stories have been associated with the Marines' Hymn. One of the best was published in the Stars and Stripes, the official newspaper of the American Expeditionary Force, under date of 16 August 1918.

"A wounded officer from among the gallant French lancers had just been carried into a Yankee field hospital to have his dressing

changed. He was full of compliments and curiosity about the dashing contingent that fought at his regiment's left.

"A lot of them are mounted troops by this time, he explained, for when our men would be shot from their horses, these youngsters would give one running jump and gallop ahead as cavalry. I believe they are soldiers from Montezuma. At least, when they advanced this morning, they were all singing "From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli."

The Marines' Hymn has been sung and played wherever U.S. Marines have landed, and today is recognized as one of the foremost military service songs.

Reference Branch
USMC History Division

Greg Pawlik

Detachment Historian

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 7, 2023 Detachment monthly meeting and Christmas Party

January 19-20, 2024 Department of Michigan, Midwinter Conference, hosted by Montford Point Detachment 158 and Downriver Detachment 153. Detroit/Dearborn Doubletree by Hilton Dearborn, Michigan

The League needs you to help support these worthwhile events. Sign Up Today



Birthday Cake thanks to Amy Kane for another fantastic cake. Despite the handicap of a sprained wrist.



Commandant Steve August
Master of Ceremonies for the Veterans Day Remembrance.



Veterans Day Ceremony at Clinton Grove Cemetery



Auxiliary Basket Raffle



Honor Guard at the Home for Hero's event



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 Marine Corps League
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City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____