



The SUNFLOWER "SCUTTLEBUTT"

Official "Mouthpiece" of the Department of Kansas, Marine Corps League October 2016
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DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS 2016-2017

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Commandant Jan Denney

It has been a busy summer and fall for members of the Marine Corps League. It was my honor to present the Department of Kansas at the National Convention in Tulsa, Ok. and the Midwest Division Fall Conference in Springfield, Mo.

The major change to come out the National Convention concerns the annual membership dues expiration date. ALL annual memberships will expire on 31 August 2017. If a member's card was renewed in September 2016, the card will expire on 31 August 2017. If a member renews in April 2016, the card will also expire on 31 August 2017.

From 1 September 2017 forward, all cards will expire on 31 August.

The following will be in place for the balance of 2016 and the first eight (8) months of 2017.

- **Current Members Renewing October to December 31, 2016.** National dues will remain at \$20.00 until December 31. Department of Kansas dues will remain at \$5.00. Detachment dues will remain the same.
- **Current Members Renewing January 1 to June 30.** National dues will be \$10.00. Department of Kansas dues will be \$2.00. Your Detachment can determine Detachment dues collected during this time period
- **New members** joining October to February 28, 2017 will pay National \$20 plus \$5 initiation fee. Department of Kansas dues will be \$5.00. Detachment dues will remain the same.
- **New Members** joining March to July 31, 2017 will pay National \$10.00 plus \$5 initiation fee. Department of Kansas dues will be \$2.00. Your Detachment can

determine Detachment dues collected during this time period.

- **New Members** joining in August will pay National \$20.00 plus \$5.00 initiation fee. Department of Kansas will be \$5.00. Detachment dues will be set by the Detachment. Members' cards will expire 31 August 2018.

The rules for 2018 have not been established.

If you receive a renewal notice from National HQ, contact your detachment Paymaster before paying to ensure you are paying the correct amount.

Semper Fidelis,
Jan Denney 785-826-5087



Sr. Vice Commandant Joe Hughes

I've just returned from the August Marine Corps League National Convention in Tulsa, OK. It was a great conference and I enjoyed the fellowship and stories of Marines from all across our great nation. I was honored to be part of a large group of Marines from our Kansas Detachments who attended.

Marines we are on deck, next year's MCL National Convention will be in Overland Park, Kansas. This will provide a great opportunity for those Marines who have not attended a National Convention to attend. I'd like to see Kansas have the largest number of attendees of any state at the conference. If planning on attending reserve your hotel rooms early as over 325 reservations have been made to date.

Secondly, the Overland Park convention site provides a great opportunity for Kansas Devil Dogs to earn their Pedigree level.

Take the time to visit and make reservations on the website: www.2017mclnationalconvention.com/

Get involved not only at your detachment level but also at Department. The dates and places of the

Department of Kansas meetings will be published in the Scuttlebutt Newsletter and the Department website as they come available. Come to the meetings and see what is going on in the great State of Kansas.

Semper Fi,
Joe Hughes



Jr. Vice Commandant Tom Huxtable

No Report

Semper Fi,
Tom Huxtable



Adj / Paymaster Harvey Harris

Greetings Marines and Corpsman, The year is going by at a tremendous speed, Birthday Ball time is near. News update from around the League. Headquarters building, Merrifield, VA has been sold and a small profit was realized, how much will depend on the moving expenses and required new items, furniture etc. The move into the new HQ started Sept 30 and will be completed the first week of October. The new Marine Corps League Headquarters address is:

3619 Jefferson Davis Highway,
Suite 115,
Stafford, VA 22554-7771.

HQ will no longer have an 800 number but all other numbers should remain the same. Effective October 3, 2016, all correspondence to HQ should be sent to the new address. HQ's Staff Roster should be up and posted this month. Seems to be reoccurring problems with the computer system at HQ, every time something is updated other information ends up changed. Let's hope National purchases a stand-

alone system soon so this will no longer be a problem.

Midwest Division Fall Conference was held in Jefferson City, MO and all 7 Departments were represented. The Spring Division Conference will be hosted by the Homestead Leathernecks Detachment, Beatrice, NE April 21-23, 2017. Happy Birthday Marines!

Semper Fidelis,
Harvey L. Harris, ADVC
Department Adjutant / Paymaster
PO Box 67582
Topeka, KS 66667-0582



Judge Advocate Bryson Allen

As of this writing we are in good shape in the Department of Kansas. I have just completed an investigation on a grievance filed against the Department of Missouri and can say that we, in this Department know how to discuss our differences and not try to get someone else to solve them for us. We are also less than 30 days from the National Elections and have not had and issues of member's campaigning is uniform for any candidate or party. Additionally there is a new ribbon chart available that shows MCL ribbons in their order of seniority. Please go to the League home page to download this chart and destroy any old copies you may have. The updated National bylaws have not been published as of this writing but as soon as they are I will let you know so your copies can be brought up to speed.

Semper Fidelis,
Bryson L. Allen



Chaplain Robert Patterson

Our Founding Fathers specifically included God in America's founding documents. God was eventually added to the Pledge of Allegiance. Today, probably more so than at any other time in our history, the use of the word God, and its religious meaning, are under attack. Americans are being asked to be tolerant of immigrant religious beliefs, as well we should, but there are those among us who want to dismiss God from all that America is and will be. This must not be allowed to happen.

We have lost "face" in many parts of the world due to many varying factors. We must not allow "revisionists" to change what our country was founded on. Before the world we must declare that our strength and our blessings come from the One we call on for peace, grace and mercy. "When all nations of earth see you bearing the name of the Lord, they will stand in *AWE* of you." Deuteronomy 28:10

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



2016-2017 Department of Kansas Elected Officers
 Pictured Left to Right: Sgt At Arms Doc Holsey; Judge Advocate Bryson Allen; Sr Vice Joe Hughes; Commandant Jan Denney; Jr Vice Tom Huxtable and Adjutant Paymaster Harvey Harris.



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



Left to right
 Floyd Bose, Howard Grauerholz, Main Belden, Sr Vice Commandant Wes Topel, Commandant Larry Thompson, John Overmiller, Chaplain Roy Wangerin, Adjutant/Paymaster AL Reif, Associate member Edward Thompson, Herman Becker and Bill Lyon.

Marine Corps League Mt Suribachi Det. 105 members family and friends, attended a Summer BBQ hosted at the residence of Darla Conaway and Commandant Larry Thompson



L-R Front Row: Anne Reif, Karen Panter and Bill Lyon. Back Row: Larry Thompson, Roy Wangerin, Edward Thompson, Al Reif and Dean Panter.

Detachment 105 hosted their annual Bingo for Veterans at Grand Island, Ne. on 8 October 2016.

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

Judge Advocate Dave Eberhart and Adjutant Paymaster Jan Denney attended the Marine Corps League National Convention the week of August 7th in Tulsa, Ok. and advanced to Pedigreed Devil Dogs.

Hall Bros. Racing Raminator Trucks were at Marshall Motor Co. on 10 September. Ticket sales for the Ride Truck in the amount of \$1804 were donated to the Detachment's Marine Toy Box.

The Tri Rivers Detachment will host a pot luck supper at the VFW Post 1432 on 18 October beginning at 1830 hours.

The Detachment will celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday at 1800 hours on 10 November at the Courtyard by Marriot in Salina, KS.

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

BGen. William A. Kurtis, SEK Det. 612. Our Detachment takes a hiatus during July and August but are now back on track with the fall season. We met on September 18th and are making plans for the Marine Corps Birthday party which will be at the VFW on Saturday, November 5th. We will have our color guard lead the Neewollah Parade on Saturday, October 29th and the Christmas parade right after Thanksgiving. So we are doing some things and trying to increase our membership.

We had three Devil Dogs advance to Pedigree Devil Dogs at the National Convention in Tulsa. Congrats to Charles Davis, Darla Fullerton and Dale Meadows.

I attended the Midwest Division Conference in Jefferson City and always enjoy seeing friends from other Departments.

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

The General Walt Detachment has been busy getting ready for local Veterans parades and programs. The Marine Corps Birthday will be upon us in no time. Happy 241st to all Marines, Corpsman and Navy FMF Chaplains. Our Detachment started a drive to form a shooting team, to date we have thanks to Marine Dick Allison 14 members signed up and ready to go. It has been a while since I have had to shot anything but hopefully I will be able to see the target. Will not be long before the cold and snow will arrive, so enjoy the little time we have left with the temps above freezing.

Semper Fidelis

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

This past quarter the General Larry Oppenheimer Detachment enjoyed many positive accomplishments and endured some sadness as well. Sadly we lost a fellow comrade, and past Detachment Commandant, Jim Denton. Jim was an integral part of building our Detachment to where we are today and he will be truly missed.

Several members of our Detachment attended the 2016 National Convention in Tulsa where we were given an up-date on the well-being of the MCL and everyone left feeling positive about the directions being taken. Joe Hughes and his committee are busy preparing for next year's 2017 National Convention that our Detachment will be hosting here in Overland Park, KS. Mark your calendar now. The dates are Saturday, August 12th through Saturday, August 19th, 2017. You can go to the 2017 MCL Convention website.

<http://www.2017mclnationalconvention.com/> for additional information.

The busiest time of the year is fast approaching as we gear up for another year of Toys for Tots. Last years' campaign was very successful with an outstanding total of 37,884 toys being collected. It is our hope that we will surpass that level by far this year.

Several fund raising events have been held this year as well as social gatherings, and a few new ones being added for the coming year. Our monthly breakfast gathering has become a fun time to share ideas and reach out to each other. A new event for next year will be several horseshoe tournaments with the idea of the Detachment not only raising money, but having a social gathering where we can bring new prospective members. This will also be an opportunity for current members to continue to build and support each other, as a Marine Family

Semper Fi,
Ken Fain
Senior Vice Commandant

Air Capital Detachment #773

Meets 3rd Tuesday
Social Time 1830
Meeting 1900 hours
American Legion 101 E 31st St South
Wichita, KS 67216-1002
Phone 316.259.4172

The Air Capital Detachment has locked down the date for the Department of Kansas Conference, 3 JUNE 2017. Location and schedule will be posted next month.

The Detachment attended a Reconsolidation Monument Dedication at the Wichita Veteran's Park for Civil War Fallen and presented a Memorial Wreath at the Marine Monument.

A Detachment squad attended the Division Meeting in Jefferson City and sustained no casualties. Those whom did not attend missed a good meeting.

Our Detachment family potluck was well attended and enjoyed by all.

We are committed to building our own bunker for monthly meetings and are focused on building fund projects, a pistol raffle and working local gun shows and events are planned.

Marines will be well represented at the Wichita Veteran's Day Parade where we will join our outstanding Young Marines in the Wichita Parade. In addition to joining the I&I Staff for the Birthday Ball, we will celebrate a Detachment Marine Corps Birthday cake cutting ceremony, open to the public, at Wichita's Veteran Park.

The DAR will present a pinning ceremony at our October meeting. The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin "A lasting memento of the nation's thanks" was authorized by Congress, established by the secretary of defense, and launched by the President. Each living veteran who served at any time in the U.S. Services, regardless of location, during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 is eligible to receive one Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin on behalf of

a grateful nation.

We eagerly are looking forward the National MCL Convention and hope to assist however we can.

TRIBUTE TO ALL KOREAN VETERANS PRESENTED BY ALPHA 1 Saturday NOVEMBER 19th 443 N. Maze Road Wichita, KS

Two shifts sitting at honor table choose either 1000-1200 or 1200-1400hrs.

Lunch served for both shifts.

Korean Veterans please call Steve Gonzales 316-640-8672 to confirm attendance.

Festivities open to the public.

ALPHA 1 is a Veteran Supporter in a new facility that is a military surplus and gun dealership and it runs first class program. A flyer for this program will be on their Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/alpha1dropzone/?fref=ts> soon.

Semper Fi,
Rick Pustka, Commandant

Edwin A Schumacher Detachment #740

Meets 1st Monday at 1930 hours
Camper & RV Center 709 Canterbury
Hays, KS 67601
Phone 785.628.3067

The Edwin A. Schumacher Detachment in Hays has gained a new member since the last edition of the Scuttlebutt. Our recruiting efforts will continue and we are hoping to add a couple additional members before we celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday in November.



(L-R) Darin Reed, Craig Manke, Bob Munsch, Chief Justice Lawton Nuss, Frank Pfannenstiel, Leroy

Herrman. Back row: Kevin Vanhorn, Joshua Enslow, Chuck White, Tim Greenwood, and Ken Funk.

On September 9, our detachment issued an honorary membership to Chief Justice Lawton Nuss of the Kansas Supreme Court. Nuss served as a Marine combat engineer officer with the Pacific Fleet from 1975 to 1979. Justice Nuss attended the ceremony at the American Legion in Hays and was also given a key to the City of Hays from the mayor. Our detachment issued a similar honorary membership in 2015 to Royce Cook of Selden, Kansas. Cook, age 93, served in the Marines at Iwo Jima during WWII. Commandant Bob Munsch traveled to Selden to deliver the honorary member certificate to Cook, who was unable to come to Hays.



(L_R) Ken Funk, Leroy Herrman, Kevin Vanhorn, Bob Munsch, Darin Reed, Craig Manke, Frank Pfannenstiel, Chuck White, and Joshua Enslow.

The detachment also participated in the Ft. Hays State University Homecoming parade on October 1. Our float was decked out with patriotic items and flags, and our PA system roared parade songs written by Sergeant Major John Philip Sousa. The crowd which numbered in the thousands was fantastic and very respectful when we passed. The sign on our float listed the names of our deceased members since our charter in 1990.

We held our annual All American Breakfast fundraiser at the American Legion on October 2. We earned hundreds of dollars that will be donated to charities to be determined later during our birthday banquet.

Also, we are in the process of submitting the department form to officially announce the change of our monthly meeting day and location. We plan to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 1930

at the American Legion Post, 1305 Canterbury Drive in Hays. Members from other detachments are always welcome to attend.

Semper Fi,
Asher C. White, Chaplain



**Midwest Division Fall Conference
Springfield, Mo
September 30 – October 1, 2016**



Department of Kansas Delegation

(L-R) Front Row: Alan Daniels; Jan Denney; Joe Hughes.
Second Row: Richard Pustka; Tom Huxtable; John Byrnes.
Third Row: Eldon Holsey; Harvey Harris; Ken Fain. Back Row: Bryson Allen; Dan Dollison.



THE MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS



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

Woof, Woof Devil Dogs,

I hope all are gathering their Bones for the State Growl in 2017. I attended meetings with the State Committee for the National MCL Conference in Kansas City next year in Overland Park. We are committed to passing a donation to the Children's Mercy Hospital. Our goal is \$40,000.00. We toured the hospital and it is truly something to see. You will, if you attend the National Conference. When you see some of those young children and their faith and attitude to get well is truly amazing.

We also met with Gregory Hunt the National Conference Chairman and he is really impressed with all that has been achieved so far for this conference. He may be making one more trip to Overland Park in April to finalize this conference. He said he usually makes a trip in February, also, however, did not think that would be necessary.

Remember the dates for this Convention is August 13 – 19, 2017. The overflow hotels are within walking distance of the Convention Center and Children's Mercy Hospital. Nothing is spread so far away as to be an inconvenience. So, get your reservations and all you Devil Dogs be ready to step up to Pedigree Devil Dog and the Gold Collar.

Happy 241st Birthday to all Marines.
Wishing all your Dawgs the Happiest of Holidays.

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: PDD James Scott

Mad Dog: DD Alvie Furbeck

Police Dog: DD Joe Hughes

Watch Dog: DD John Byrnes

Barking Dog: PDD Jan Denney



TAPS

Vernon Osborn - Tri Rivers Detachment

Jim Denton – Gen. Larry Oppenheimer Det.

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



2017 National Convention

August 13 – 19, 2017

Overland Park, Kansas

Convention Website

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



Scuttlebutt and Booster Club

We are making fundamental changes to the Scuttlebutt and its availability to members.

The cost of printing and mailing the Scuttlebutt is an increasing burden on the Department and its members. Therefore, beginning with this issue and running through the Summer Edition, the following changes will be made in an effort to reduce costs but still deliver the Scuttlebutt to members:

- If a member has an email address, they will receive the email version of the newsletter only.
- If a member has an email address but wants to receive a printed copy, they will be required to join the Booster Club
- The annual fee to join the Booster Club is \$5.00 (A \$20.00 donation receives a 4 year membership.) In addition, donate between April and July and your expiration date will

be July, 20xx. (The end date will depend on the amount that you donate)

- Make your check payable to Department of Kansas, MCL and mail to: Dept. of Kansas Paymaster PO Box 67582 Topeka, KS 66667-0582

The Scuttlebutt serves to provide information to our members. Send articles and photos of your Detachment to jadenney@cox.net.

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/>

<i>Send photos to jadenney@cox.net.</i>

Next Scuttlebutt Deadline is 10 January 2017

A ONCE MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!