



The SUNFLOWER "SCUTTLEBUTT"

Official "Mouthpiece" of the Department of Kansas, Marine Corps League

Summer Edition 2020

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DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS 2020-2021

COMMANDANT: Joe Hughes

e-mail: jmhughes@everestkc.net

SR. VICE COMMANDANT: George Waugh

e-mail: gw10502@gmail.com

JR. VICE COMMANDANT: Larry Cushenbery

e-mail: cushdog@speednet.com

SGT. AT ARMS: Eldon "Doc" Holsey

email: docfmf.70@gmail.com

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e-mail: OldDD59.69@gmail.com

ADJUTANT / Paymaster: Harvey Harris

e-mail: hharris@MCLeague.org

CHAPLAIN: Wes Topel

e-mail: Wes.topel@gmail.com

Jr. Past Commandant: Jan Denney

e-mail: jadenney@cox.net



Commandant Joe Hughes

Welcome back Marines! You'll notice various changes in the way our meeting places look as well as new practices and protocols. I understand these changes may be a little discomfoting and a new way of interacting. The goal is to collaboratively work together and ensure a safe and secure environment so we can navigate the complexities of our current "new normal." The good news is we are back in a group of Marines and FMF Corpsman having some fun.

We come back together at that time of year where the Paymaster has the task of collecting our yearly Marine Corps League dues and submitting transmittal's to the Department Adjutant / Paymaster. Please start mailing your dues and any personal information updates to your Paymaster.

Marine Corps League dues for 2020 – 2021 are due by September 1, 2020.

There has been recent discussion at the national level about raising the Life Membership fees. This might be a good time to consider Life Membership when renewing.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

0-35 \$500.00

36 40 \$400.00

41-50 \$400.00

51-64 \$300.00

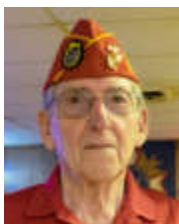
65- over \$200.00

Let me close with a hope we all stay safe. Hopefully we can get together in the near future at a Department of Kansas meeting.

Semper Fi,

Joe Hughes

jmhughes@everestkc.net



Sr Vice George Waugh

Now that restrictions on group gathering are easing up, we need to be careful and safe while we start renewing our Detachment golds. It is hoped that no one falls from this coronavirus. Let's get our

meetings back on track and get all members renewed as August is fast approaching.

Semper Fi,
George Waugh



Jr Vice Larry Cushenbery

The recent "pandemic" has truly challenged us to "Improvise, Adapt and Overcome" our normal ways of accomplishing things this year. The election of Dept. Officers, Conferences, and regular Detachment meetings were all affected. As Marines, we have all taken this in stride and continue to make needed adjustments to accomplish our goals. As your newly elected Jr. Vice Commandant of the Department of Kansas, I first want to thank all of the Marines who have been doing Buddy Checks either by phone or email to make sure everyone is doing alright. I would encourage everyone to continue checking regularly on Marines who cannot get out and around for whatever reason. It not only is the right thing to do it helps to retain members when we show that we care for each other and are serious when we say SEMPER FI. I know Detachments are trying to get back on meeting schedules, but different counties and different rules are making it a challenge. It will be difficult to recruit new members at this time but not impossible. By showing that we check on one another and have good camaraderie it makes it easier for someone to want to belong. Anytime you see a fellow Marine, wearing clothing identifying as

a Marine, ask if he is a member of the Marine Corps League. If he is not let them know what we are about and how to join. Semper Fi and keep a positive attitude through this mess. Anyone having any ideas on how we can improve or just wanting to talk feel free to call me at 316-772-8129

Semper Fi,
Larry Cushenbery



Judge Advocate Bryson Allen

No Report

Semper Fi,
Bryson Allen,



Adj. / Paymaster Harvey Harris

Half the year is already gone. It is Hell to get old, where do the days and months go? Detachment Paymasters, since it is July the following reports are now due.

1. 990-N filing
2. Registration with the KS Secretary of State for Non-for-Profit Status
3. Report of Officers Installation (ROI) if you have elected new officers due to the slow down caused by COVID -19, If you have not elected officers at this time you have until October 2020 to do so, this can be accomplished in person at a meeting or by teleconference/video.
4. Your Life Member Audit Report upon receiving the July Roster from National. **(The roster will be printed using the old database information and may not be accurate, please check it for errors).** If you have errors, please contact me with the correction and I can make the corrections in the new National Database.

It will soon be time to renew all members for the coming year. All non-life memberships expire August 31, 2020.

Numbers for the Department as of 04-20-2020.

LIFE: 197

NON-LIFE 167

TOTAL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING 364

OVERDUE MEMBERS 19.

(These will be dropped from membership on 10-01-2020).

You must use the new Marine Corps League forms; all are fillable and can be downloaded from the National Library site. **The only form you need to send to the Department Paymaster is ONE copy of your Transmittal along with your check.** ALL other forms may be emailed to the Paymaster at harvey.harris@att.net. You will need to continue to send a Transmittal to Department along with the Notice of Death you send to the Wes Topel, Department Chaplain at wes.topel@gmail.com

Semper Fidelis,
Harvey L. Harris, MWD NVC



Chaplain Wes Topel

- Twenty-two U.S. military veterans take their own lives each day.
- More veterans will die of suicide in a two-day period than service members killed in action during the past year.
- The rate of suicide among veterans is 1.5 times greater than that of the civilian population.
- According to the Veteran's Administration, 78,875 veterans committed suicide between 2005 and 2017. This is more than the number of Americans killed in each of our nation's major conflicts, except WWII and the Civil War.

I have been familiar with the above statistics for several years but the reality of our nation's troubling veteran suicide epidemic did not truly hit home until

this past week when I learned a Soldier who had just graduated from one of our courses ended his life.

As your Department Chaplain, I urge you to support our active service members and fellow veterans who are struggling with PTSD, depression, relationship stress and other factors that contribute to suicide. I also encourage you to help spread awareness of this disturbing epidemic.

Recently LCpl Beau Drake, a honorary active duty (HAD) member of the Mount Suribachi Detachment stationed at Cherry Point, N.C., made the commitment to spread awareness by performing 22 push-ups each day for 22 days. During this 22-day period, he is challenging others to accept the 22-day push-up challenge and/or donate to the cause.

Two certified 501c3 organizations are sponsoring veteran suicide awareness push-up challenges. To learn more and donate, please visit -
<https://www.22untilnone.org/>
<https://activeheroes.org/22pushups/>

Detachment Chaplains

Report all membership deaths utilizing the [Notice of Death](#) form. Download form from
<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Notice-of-Death.pdf>

Complete the form and email to:

Department Chaplain Wes Topel

Wes.topel@gmail.com

OR

Complete the form; keep one (1) copy and mail the balance to: Department Chaplain Wes Topel, 520 W. Court, Smith Center, Ks 66967.

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

Detachment Paymasters

Complete a transmittal listing the deceased member with the Code **NOD** and date of death. Mail Transmittal to: Department of Kansas Paymaster – PO Box 67582 – Topeka, KS 66667-0582

If the NOD is the only item on the transmittal and there is not a check involved, email the transmittal to the Paymaster at hharris@MCLLeague.org

Semper Fi,
Wes Topel



Department of Kansas Detachments

Mount Suribachi Detachment #105

Chartered 9 February 1955
Commandant: Larry Thompson
Adjutant Paymaster Wes Topel
Wes.topel@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Tuesday at 1900 hours
VFW Post 1141
620 A St
Smith Center, KS 66967
Detachment Contact 785.695.2357

It has been a while since Mt Suribachi Detachment has had a meeting due to Covid -19. Unfortunately, the Detachment has had two Marines enter Rest Homes for dementia. Hoping for better times ahead.

Semper Fi,
Larry Thompson, Commandant

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

Chartered 6 January 1986
Commandant: Dale Meadows
Adjutant Paymaster Dan Dollison
Dan.dollison@yahoo.com
Meets 3rd Sunday at 1830 hours
VFW Post 1186 113 E Myrtle
Independence, KS 67301
Detachment Contact 620.331.6951

We were finally able to have a meeting on June 21, 2020 and had ten members on hand including two new members, Randy Gilbreath and Timothy Ware. Both were sworn in and initiated and given their membership pins.

Election of officers was held with new officers for 2021:

Dale Meadows - Commandant
Tony Cook - Senior Vice Commandant
David Fuqua, Junior Vice Commandant
Darla Fullerton - Judge Advocate
Charles Davis - Junior Past Commandant
Dan Dollison - Adjutant/Paymaster
Mike Prunty - Chaplain
Kenton Holloway - Sergeant at Arms

Installation of officers was held with David Fuqua, Past Commandant doing the honors.

Our Detachment will not meet during July and August with our next get together being a picnic on September 12, 2020 at the Bill Leonard Gazebo in Riverside Park in Independence starting at 1100. Our next regular meeting will be Sunday, September 20, 2020 at VFW Post 1186 in Independence. Hope everyone is staying safe and wearing their masks.

Semper Fidelis,
Dan Dollison, Adjutant/Paymaster

Gen. Lewis W. Walt Detachment #682

Chartered 18 January 1989
Commandant: Paul McGuire
Adjutant Paymaster Harvey Harris
hharris@MCLLeague.org
Meets 4th Thursday at 1900 hours
VFW Post 1650
3110 SW Huntoon
Topeka, KS 66604
Detachment Contact 785.640.6077

Greetings Marines and Corpsmen, here we are trying to maintain a life and the COVID-19 is still interfering. It would be nice to get back to what a normal could be, but every day the numbers go up as we seem to have a difficult time with wearing a face mask in public. Our Detachment has not been able to hold a detachment coffee on Wednesdays or have a Detachment meeting since February 2020. The Detachment Officers have continued to contact effected members by phone since February to ensure the health and wellbeing in an attempt to ensure they have everything they may need and just to stay in contact with members that may not be able to get out of the house. This COVID -19 is getting OLD. The General Lewis W. Walt

Detachment will try to hold our first meeting since February on July 23, 2020 at 1900, that is if the restriction are eased a little and the location of the meeting has been cleaned as required, **(Face Mask will be required, the Detachment will issue a mask if you do not have one)**. Keep positive thoughts and we will overcome. Hopefully, we will get back to a new normal soon.

Semper Fidelis,
General Lewis W. Walt Detachment

Tri Rivers Detachment #730

Chartered 10 November 1990
Commandant: Larry Cushenbery
Adjutant Paymaster Jan Denney
jadenney@cox.net
Meets 3rd Tuesday at 1900 hours
VFW 1108 W. Crawford
Salina, KS 67401
Detachment Contact 785.826.5087

The Detachment Color Guard participated in Memorial Day Services at Gypsum Hill and Roselawn Cemeteries. The city would not allow the ceremony at the War Memorial in Sunset Park. Our regular business meeting was held in June with good attendance.

Semper Fidelis,
Jan Denney, Adjutant / Paymaster

Edwin A Schumacher Detachment #740

Chartered 11 November 1990
Commandant: Bob Munsch
Adjutant Paymaster Joshua Enslow
joshuawsu@gmail.com
Meets 1st Tuesday at 1930 hours
VFW Post
22nd & Vine
Hays, KS. 67601
Detachment Contact 785.261.0779

The Edwin A. Schumacher Detachment in Hays installed its new officers at our March meeting. Correspondence from the Hays community was shared with members thanking us for our donations last Christmas.

The detachment participated in the Wild West Festival "Hometown Heroes" parade on July 4. Our float was decked out in red, white, and blue banners

and a PA system playing patriotic songs. It was a crowd pleaser. Eight members walked or rode in the parade.

We plan to man a food booth at the Octoberfest celebration on October 2 and 3. We will be selling our "world famous" fried bologna sandwiches. Last year we sold out by 2 PM, so twice the bologna will be ordered in advance to this fall.

We would like to welcome to our detachment our newest member, Dan Dischner of Hays.

Semper Fi,
Asher C. White, Chaplain

Air Capital Detachment #773

Chartered 30 June 1994
Commandant: Irona Cliver
Paymaster Frosty Evans
evansfa@gmail.com
Meets 3rd Tuesday
Social Time 1830
Meeting 1900 hours
American Legion Post 4
816 North Water St
Wichita, KS 67203
Detachment Contact 316.721.8009

Air Capital Detachment is gradually getting back into a "NORMAL" routine. Our unit is, once again having meetings, and made nominations for the offices in the detachment. These nominees will be confirmed at our July meeting.

Our unit is also meeting the first or second Saturday of each month to enjoy breakfast and fellowship once again. We also meet the third Thursday of each month for a donut and coffee at the local Winchell's. The gathering in June was moved from the donut shop to Watson Park, as the seating was not available.

We held our first Growl in some time after the June Detachment meeting. There was not a whole lot of discussion. But the main thing was, we counted out over a 100 Big Bones donated during this Growl.

We have another Gun Show coming up in October. We may be attending and will be passing out Pen Roses, telling lies and taking donations.

To all the other Detachments; Be safe and be well!

Semper Fi,
Doc Holsey

Gen. Larry Oppenheimer Detachment #1025

Chartered 13 December 1999

Commandant: Joel Wilson

Paymaster Bill Clinton

bdclint@sbcglobal.net

Meets 4th Wednesday at 1900 hours

VFW Post 7397

9550 Pflumm Road

Lenexa, KS 66215

Detachment Contact 913-492-1199

We have not had a lot of activities across the detachment since April, as you can imagine. We did vote and induct the new detachment officers at our meeting in June. Our Devil Dog Pound did a virtual Spring Growl and raised \$190 bones. in May.

Our fellow Marine, Max Deweese age 99, contracted the coronavirus and survived. He made it back home early May and back onto the golf course not long after. He is a veteran of both WWII and Korea. He was with the first landing party of Guadalcanal and a recipient of two purple hearts.

Semper Fi,
Joel Wilson, Commandant



I have League members ask me from time to time the status of the Not For Profit that I started to assist veterans of all services especially homeless veterans. I started Kansas Veterans Project, Inc. (KVP, INC.) (501 – C – 3 not- for- profit organization) in June of 2018. Since that time, we have assisted 72 veterans as they transitioned from homeless to housing or in some cases who are in housing but are struggling with rent payments or utilities payments.

Our assistance ranges from a few items to full move-ins where we provide new beds and bedding, furniture, cookware, dishware and personal care items as well as gift cards for food and / or clothing. In 2 cases, we purchased new refrigerators to

replace units that were beyond repair. This past spring, we provided cash funds to a veteran in Cleveland, TN who lost his home of 43 years and all his families' possessions in a Easter weekend tornado.

We have assisted veterans who have been homeless for a short time and veterans who have been on the streets for several years. The veterans (men and women) range in age from mid-twenties to mid-70's.

KVP, INC has provided \$33,500.00 in goods and services to the 72 veterans and we are able to do so by receiving donations From other veterans and caring citizens.

If you would like to donate, make a check payable to Kansas Veterans Project Inc and mail to 1365 Eaglecrest Rd. Salina, KS 67401. Donations are 100% tax deductible and every penny assist veterans. . I pay for all administration fees and operational costs. I would appreciate your donations very much.

If you have questions concerning the Kansas Veterans Project Inc, please email me at jadenney@cox.net.

Semper Fidelis,
Jan Denney, President
Kansas Veterans Project, Inc.

The Military Order of the Devil Dogs



PDD Jan Denney 93-056
Worthy Pack Leader
Kansas Pack

The Military Order of the Devil Dogs

WOOF, WOOF!

The Kansas Pack is offering covers for sale as a fund raiser for the Pack. These covers cost is 20 Big Bones. The Honorable 59th Chief Devil Dog has approved the cover and logo. The cover is made by USMC authorized manufacturer.

To order, email jadenney@cox.net.
please indicate number and size



WOOF, WOOF!
PDD Jan Denney 93-056
Worthy Kansas Pack Leader

Greetings to the Dogs of the KS Pack, with all the virus going around we have had a difficult time getting out of the Dog House, it has been a long time since we could get together and have a grand howl but we need one soon. No new Pups have been installed lately and we need to search out detachments for qualified members. It has been difficult to conduct a Growl but if the opportunity to hold a growl presents, we need to take advantage and see how the old dogs are holding up with all the restrictions placed upon us. They may have some extra Bones the can part with, the kids will enjoy them.

All Non-Life MODD memberships expire August 31. Renewals accepted any time prior to expiration date.

Semper Woofing,
PDD Harvey Harris

Kansas Pack Dog Robber

Kennel Website: www.moddkennel.org
Kansas Pack Website:
<http://www.mcleaguekansas.com/modd.html>

Kansas Pack Officers 2019-2020

Pack Leader: PDD Jan Denney
jadenney@cox.net
785-826-5087

Pack Dog Robber: PDD Harvey Harris
hharris@MCLLeague.org
785.640.6077

Sr. Vice: PDD Dan Dollison
Jr. Vice: PDD Harvey Harris
Smart Dog: PDD Bryson Allen
Dog Trainer: PDD Larry Cushenbery
Mad Dog: PDD Doc Holsey
Police Dog: PDD Tom Huxtable
Watch Dog: PDD Joe Hughes
Barking Dog: Open



TAPS

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

UPCOMING EVENTS



**2020 MCL National Convention
and
MODD Supreme Growl
August 9 to August 15, 2020
Daytona Beach, FL.**

CANCELLED



2020 Midwest Division Fall Conference
October 23 -25 2020
Jefferson City, MO.
Capital Plaza Hotel
415 West McCarty St.
Jefferson City, Mo.

Room Rate \$104.00 + tax/night,
Suites \$134.00 + tax/night
Includes breakfast for 2 with each room.
Hotel phone - 1-800-338-8088 or 573-635-1234
Ext. 7200.
Be sure to tell them you are with
the Marine Corps League

Conference Costs:
Banquet \$30.00
Hospitality \$20.00
Banquet and Hospitality \$50.00
Marine Corps League Registration Fee \$5.00
(Auxiliary or Guest don't pay League Registration
Fee)
Make Checks payable to Samuel F. Gearhart
Detachment #656 MCL
Mail to: David Hunter
1820 Bald Hill Rd.
Jefferson City, Mo 65101

**Follow this link to access Conference
Information**
[http://www.midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org/
index.html](http://www.midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org/index.html)



MODD "Get Together"

Message from MWDVCDD PDD Chuck Covert ...

"The Honorable 59th Chief Devil Dog has scheduled a "Dog get together" at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort in Ocean City, Maryland. There will be classes, a Growl, a Banquet, and an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie! This "Get Together" is open to all Dogs of any elevation. It is highly recommended you attend, if at all possible. Not only will it be the

usual fun that the MODD is famous for, but you might learn a thing two also!"

October 1 – 4, 2020
Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort
Ocean City Maryland.

You can book on-line:
<https://www.princessroyale.com/groups/> Make sure
you put in the group code **8265** and the check in &
check out date.

or call the direct reservations: **1-800-476-9253** and
just reference **the group code: 8265** and **the group
name: Military Order Of The Devil Dog**



USMC History
usmchangout.com

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.

11 July 1798: President John Adams approved "An Act for Establishing and Organizing a Marine Corps", and it became law. The following day, the President appointed William Ward Burrows the Major Commandant of the new Corps. In August, Major Burrows opened his headquarters in Philadelphia, at that time still the capital of the new nation.

26 July 1947: The National Security Act of 1947 became effective, reaffirming the status of the Marine Corps as a separate military service within the Department of the Navy. The Act Provided for Fleet Marine Forces and confirmed the Corps' mission of seizing and defending advanced bases, as well as land operation incident to naval campaigns.



Scuttlebutt and Booster Club

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



Marine Corps League National Headquarters

MCL National Website

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

Mailing Address:

Marine Corps League National Headquarters
3619 Jefferson Davis Highway Suite 115
Stafford, VA 22554

MCL Library – Documents and Forms that are available to download.

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/>

Websites of Interest

Department of Kansas Website

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

Midwest Division Website

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

Military Order of the Devil Dogs

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

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!