



# SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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MAY 2018

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## Marines & Auxiliary Members:

### MAY MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2000.

Join us at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica. The telephone number to the Post is: (586) 731-9833.

### **50/50 Attendance Drawing**

Winner of 50/50 Ron Hudas  
Kim Hadley would have won the attendance drawing had she been present.

### HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

The "Macomb County Young Marines are having a highway clean up on 16 Mile Road on May 19 @ 10:00.

We meet @ 9:45 for the walk on 16 Mile between Van Dyke and Dodge Park. It takes about 1 hour. Anyone from the League wishing to join us for an exercise walk and some camaraderie, we would like to have you join us.

Semper Fi,  
MCYM's



### ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER

Current Membership  
111 Life Members  
27 Paid annual members  
139 voting members  
14 delinquent members

Reminder for annual membership. Dues for 2019 need to be received prior to September 1, 2018. Notices will be sent out in July.

If you would like to become a life member and cannot afford it at this time, talk to me and we can discuss a payment plan option.

Donald Lyon

### Memorial Day 2018

The Macomb County Marine Corps League Detachment will take part in our annual Memorial Day ceremony at Clinton Grove Cemetery Sunday, May 27 at 11 a.m. followed by the ceremony at the veterans wall near the Mount Clemens fire station. Lunch will be provided afterward and they will announce where during the ceremony.

We are looking for detachment members to man the color guard and also participate in the ceremony. Uniform for the color guard members will be the White Marine Corps League shirt and dress blue trousers and others can wear their red Marine Corps League shirt and black pants and red jacket if required.

On Monday, May 28, we will be participating in the Sterling Heights Memorial Day Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial near City Hall & Parade down Dodge. Form up for the ceremony is at 8:45 a.m. and the parade will follow afterward. If you have any questions call Norm Pfaff at [586 263-3448](tel:586-263-3448).

## **MCRD SAN DIEGO** **CHANGES OVER TIME**

I thought I would change things up for this newsletter and do some research on the MCRD San Diego. The following only covers the WWII years. Later years will be covered in future newsletters.

Throughout World War II, advanced individual and unit combat training for Marines on the West Coast was conducted at the new installations supplemental to, and eventually separate from, the Marine Base, San Diego. Sea School training and recruit training, which had been shortened to seven weeks, continued to be conducted in San Diego for Marines in the western United States.

The requirements for specialized training in certain skills to quickly expand Marine forces for Pacific combat resulted in the establishment of several new training units at San Diego. The Signal School, which provided instruction on radio and field telephone skills, the First Sergeant's School, and the Motor Transport School, which conducted a mechanics and drivers course, came into operation at the Marine Base. With the capitulation of Japan in August 1945, World War II ended and the pressures of increasing personnel strengths and training requirements slackened. The growth of the size of the Marine Corps during World War II placed worldwide force requirements upon it that caused an overall increase in its personnel strength. The training for Fleet Marine Force duty, a prewar Marine Base function, remained separate from the base proper as peace returned. Only recruit training and a few select skill schools remained at the San Diego Base.

From the beginning of Marine training in San Diego, it had been necessary to establish and maintain a rifle range on a small tract of land a few miles north of the main base. First called the Marine Rifle Range (Pueblo Lands), La Jolla, then officially commissioned as Camp Calvin B. Matthews in 1942, the range became the home for the Weapons Training Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot. Named for Lieutenant Colonel Calvin B. Matthews, the rifle range remained an effective training facility until closed in 1964 to provide for expansion of San Diego. To show how the range grew during World War II, in 1942, 69,208 Marines fired over the course and in 1944, this figure rose to over 100,000. From its beginning in 1918 to its final shot, over one million shooters fired over 300 million rounds while undergoing weapons training.



Camp Matthews

As the war caused the Marine Base and its satellite unit to be expanded, so also did the conflict in growth result for the City of San Diego. When the war ended, San Diego's urban expansion continued and in the late 1950's negotiations began for the removal of Camp Matthews to provide for both city expansion and college construction. The University of California wanted to establish its San Diego campus on the site of the Marine Rifle Range. Bowing to civilian pressures, funds granted by Congress permitted construction of a new range for the Weapons Training Battalion in the Stuart Mesa area of Camp Pendleton. Plans and construction began in 1962 and 1963 respectively and the new facility, named Edson Range, became operational on 8 August 1964. Closing ceremonies occurred at Camp Matthews on 21 August 1964 and 46 years of Marine training at that portion of the San Diego Marine Base came to an end. Today, only a plaque on the campus of the University of California at San Diego marks the site.

SOURCE Fahey, John Edward (1974). [History of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at San Diego 1911-1974](#), Masters' Thesis, History Department, [University of San Diego](#). Retrieved on 2006-06-30.

Greg Pawlik  
*Detachment Historian*

## **AUXILIARY NEWS**

It's been a cold and dreary Spring, but we did have a meeting in April after a 3 month hiatus. We did not have a quorum though we did get some work done. There were several thank-you notes to read from the recipients of our annual Christmas donations as well the letter about the monetary gift for the National President, Karen Aune, a member of our own Auxiliary Unit. We certainly are proud of Karen and the job she's doing at the National level for the Auxiliary.

We welcomed a new member into our Unit, Wendy Succarde. Wendy's husband, Dick Succarde, is a member of the Detachment. We're always looking for new members who are needed to keep our Unit active and viable. Thanks for joining us, Wendy.

We received a letter from our Unit President, Sharon Renaud. She has asked Senior Vice, Maureen Ailor to take over her duties due to health reasons until she is able to resume them. Senior Vice Ailor has agreed to step up to the plate and we are so grateful to Maureen for doing so. We wish Sharon a speedy recovery. All of us in the Auxiliary will give Maureen whatever help she needs during the coming months as interim President.

Over the last several months we received some sad news concerning three of our members. Gail Trevino, one of our Unit's Charter members, passed away. Her husband, David Trevino, is a life member of the Detachment and past Detachment commandant. Besides Gail, we were notified that two other of our members passed away, Kathy Harrison, past Department President and Janice Treaster, both life members. Our sincerest regrets go out to the families of Gail, Kathy and Janice and all three will be remembered in our prayers.

Remember to mark your calendars for the Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony at Clinton Grove Cemetery on Sunday, May 27, 2018. We will muster by the flag pole by the Veterans Section at 10:30 a. m. The ceremony begins at 11:00 a. m. Wear your cover, black trousers and white shirt/blouse. After the conclusion of the Clinton Grove Cemetery ceremony, we will drive over to the Mt. Clemens Veterans Memorial which is located behind the police station and have a wreath laying ceremony there as well. I encourage all to attend to commemorate the day on which those who died in active military service are remembered.

We were also notified by the Detachment that our annual Veterans Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 4, 2018. Reserve the date on your calendars and plan to attend. More information will be available in the coming months.

The American Legion, Post 351 has a couple events planned in May and since we have our monthly meetings at their Post, we are glad to support their activities. On Saturday, May 12, 2018 there will be a Craft and Vendor Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on May 15 there will be a Meat Raffle. Please call the Post at 586-731-9833 for additional information.

Our next meeting is at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, 2018. Our meetings are scheduled at the same time the Detachment has its meetings which makes it

easy to attend if your spouse or other qualified family member is a member of the Detachment. Like I said earlier in this article, we're always looking for new members!

### **2018 MCL FUN SHOOT RESULTS 4-21-18**

Perfect score=200 There were 36 participants.

First place Marine – William Wood – 172

First place Non-Marine – Cole Landshoot – 167

First place Bench – Justin Graf - 160

First place Women – Krysta Kincaid – 98

First place juniors – Bethany Zielinski - 183

Second place juniors – Sean Houlihan – 171

Third place juniors – Seth Baird – 139

Thank you to everyone helping to make this work.

Special thank you to Dennis - Long day on the range but we "got er' done".

Scott R. Neff Sr.

*Commander, Marine Corps League*

*Pipes and Drums Band*

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

CRAFT AND VENDOR SHOW at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue, Utica. May 12, 2018

May 5, 2018 Meat Raffle at American Legion Post 351

MEMORIAL DAY wreath laying ceremony at Clinton Grove Cemetery. Sunday, May 27, 2018

2018 DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN MCL/MCLA CONVENTION

Hosted by the Belcher-Lane-Williams Det. 146

May 31 – 1, 2, and 3 June 2018

Doubletree Hotel, Port Huron, MI

ANNUAL VETERAN'S PICNIC

Saturday, August 4, 2018

**MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT**  
 Department of Michigan  
 Marine Corps League  
**INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS**

Mailing Address:  
 14656 Eastport Drive  
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313  
 Macomb.marines@gmail.com

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 Detachment and Auxiliary. SKUTTLEBUTT Newsletter is a  
 non-profit monthly publication for the use of the Macomb  
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Junior Vice Commandant	open		Junior Vice President	Sherri Teeples	
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Chaplain			Co-Chaplain	Mary Ann Music	(586) 783-2362
Sergeant at Arms	Michael Hall	()	Secretary	Irene Spooner	(586) 466-5708
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Quartermaster	Brett Jacokes	(248) 761-6513	Auditor	Loretta Balderson	
Deputy Quartermaster	John Sternicki	(586) 468-1014			
Historian	Greg Pawlik	(586) 808-3217			
Highway Cleanup Officer	Bill LaFave	(313) 720-0425			
Web Sergeant	Don Lyon	(586) 925-5010			

**Change of Address:** Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:  
 14656 Eastport Drive. Sterling Heights, MI 48313  
 Macomb.marines@gmail.com

**New Address (please print):**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_