



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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OCTOBER 2020

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Marines & Auxiliary Members:

OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, 1 October at 7:00 pm(1900)

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

DETACHMENT AND AUXILIARY BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER



Elaine Arnold
Jeffrey Draksler
Benny Gaglio
Angelo Lema
Robert Long
John Sych
Gary Titus Jr.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines,

We are at the end of another fiscal year, a tough year with COVID-19, but I feel for me it was a good year. I always set goals for myself and now it's time to set new goals for the coming fiscal year. I didn't "let the old man in", I kept the critics at bay and I gave our departing Veterans the honor and respect that they deserve at 35 funerals to date with the Macomb Ritual team.

One of our Detachment's goals this coming year will be to set an amount we can give to a charity, a veteran or a veteran organization, a nice gift of \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00. Do you think that we can do it? I do and our Senior Vice says the same.

But don't forget your past goals. Challenge yourself to do better every year. Try to set examples for your peers.

We will have the results of the golf outing for our next meeting. The MCL Department will have the fall staff meeting in Davidson Michigan at a VFW hall I'll bring directions at the next meeting. The birthday party is just around the corner and then comes the MCL department Convention in January or February.

Remember to wear your red shirt, black trousers, cover and name tag at our induction and be sure to read the Chaplain's report.
Respectfully submitted,

Norm Pfaff
Commandant

ADJUTANT PAYMASTER

At the August membership meeting a motion was presented and seconded to reelect the current officers for the next year. At the September meeting this was voted on by the membership, and passed.

2021 Elected Officers

Commandant	Norm Pfaff
Sr. Vice Commandant	Mike Hall
Jr. Vice Commandant	John Myroniuk
Judge Advocate	Christine Tonegatto-Salo
Chaplain	James Dewey
Adjutant/Paymaster	Don Lyon
Sergeant at Arms	Clement Buck

Appointed Officers

Quartermaster	Dean Miles
Deputy Quartermaster	John Sternicki
Honor Guard Commander	Ron Hudas
Historian	Greg Pawlik
Webmaster	Don Lyon
Social Media	Steve August
Toys for Tots liaison	Clement Buck

Current membership
103 Life members
29 Annual members
2 delinquent

Annual Membership dues. Most annual members have paid their dues for this year. Those that haven't please get them to me as soon as possible.

Donald Lyon
Adjutant/Paymaster

AUXILIARY NEWS

Our September meeting was small, but we were able to conduct some important business. September is usually the month when we vote in our new officers for the coming year. However, due to the uniqueness of these times, those of us present voted to retain our current officers for the 2020-2021 year.

These times are challenging, but we are doing our best to carry on with the traditions of our Auxiliary.

Even though we didn't have an election, we are still having our annual installation along with the Detachment. At the next meeting on Thursday, October 1st, 2020 we will install our officers. The meeting will start a half hour earlier than usual, at 7:00 pm (or 1900 hours).

Auxiliary members are asked to wear a white shirt, black pants, their Auxiliary cover and pin. The Detachment will provide the dinner immediately following the joint ceremony. The Auxiliary has been asked to bring desserts. This is an important event for the Auxiliary and we're looking for all members to support it by attending.

After we closed our September meeting, Auxiliary President Maureen Ailor and Treasurer Irene Spooner met with some of the Detachment officers to discuss the upcoming Marine Corps Birthday and how we plan to hold our traditional birthday celebration. There are a number of challenges we face in light of COVID-19, but we do feel we can go forward with our annual celebration, remain within the State guidelines and keep our members safe. The Auxiliary will continue its plans for the Annual Charity Raffle. So, of course, this means we need your help. The raffle's success depends on the donations you, as members of the Auxiliary and Detachment, can make. As in the past, we are looking for new or gently used items such as tools, small appliances or electronics, home décor as well as non-perishable food items, beer, wine and liquor. In other words, just about anything including cash.

We will be collecting donations through the November 5th meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Irene Spooner at 586-466-5708. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Detachment member who donated \$20 at the last meeting to go toward our party preparations. I wasn't given your name, but you know who you are and thank you from all of us in the Auxiliary.

We hope everyone is staying safe and keeping healthy. Follow the State and local guidelines. Show your patriotism by wearing a mask when you do need to go out. Be kind and helpful. We as Americans will surely come through this stronger than before. "Semper Fidelis" is more than just a slogan, it's a way of life.

See you at the installation on Thursday, October 1.

Semper Fidelis,
Irene Spooner
MCLA Secretary/Treasurer

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Marines I hope the fall has started well for you and your families. The Commandant recently made me aware that a few of you have been in the hospital and are recovering well. I'm glad to hear it, but wanted to let everyone know that if you or your family find yourself with health and hospital concerns your Marine Corps League stands ready to assist you anyway that we can. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the officers and let us know. At the very least, please contact me so that I can be praying for you.

Also, before we have our installation of officers at the next meeting we are going to take a few minutes with a time of remembrance for Harry Demeshko. Harry passed away July 26, 2020 without our knowledge and we would like to give you a time to share a few thoughts. He was a member from November 2013 to the time of his passing. Please be ready to share any stories or remembrances you may have. As always, I am here to serve you.

Blessings on you and your families,

Jim Dewey
Chaplain



HISTORIAN'S CORNER

1 October 1997: The first African-American female colonel in the Marine Corps was promoted to that rank during a ceremony at MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina. Colonel Gilda A. Jackson, a native of Columbus, Ohio, made Marine Corps history when she achieved the rank of colonel. She was serving as Special Projects Officer, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing at the time of her promotion.

5 October 1775: Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the 2d Continental Congress used the word "Marines" on one of the earliest known occasions, when it directed General George Washington to secure two vessels on "Continental risqué and pay", and to give orders for the "proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen" to serve on the two armed ships.

23 October 1983: At 0622 an explosive-laden truck slammed into the BLT headquarters building in Beirut, Lebanon, where more than 300 men were billeted. The massive explosion collapsed the building in seconds, and took the lives of 241 Americans—including 220 Marines. This was the highest loss of life in a single day for Marines since D-Day on Iwo Jima in 1945.

28 October 1962: An 11,000-man 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade left Camp Pendleton by sea for the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis. One week earlier, the entire 189,000-man Marine Corps had been put on alert and elements of the 1st and 2d Marine Divisions were sent to Guantanamo Bay to reinforce the defenders of the U.S. Naval Base. Other 2d Division units and squadrons from five Marine Aircraft Groups were deployed at Key West, Florida, or in Caribbean waters during the Cuban crisis.

*Greg Pawlik
Detachment Historian*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For details on any of the events listed below, come to a meeting or contact Commandant Norm Pfaff.

Oct. 1	1900	General Membership mtg Installation of officers
Nov 5	1930	General Membership mtg
Nov 10	1500-2000	Marine Corps 245th Birthday Party
Nov 11		Veterans Day Ceremonies at Clinton Grove Cemetery then Mt. Clemens Veterans Wall
Dec 3	1900	General Membership Meeting & Christmas party



Colonel Gilda A. Jackson



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MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
 Department of Michigan
 Marine Corps League
 INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS
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 14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313-5325

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Commandant	Norm Pfaff	(586) 263-3448	Auxiliary President	Maureen Ailor	(810) 310-6081
Senior Vice Commandant	Mike Hall	(586) 604-4834	Senior Vice President	Loretta Balderson	(810) 392-2590
Junior Vice Commandant	John Myroniuk	(586) 739-1929	Junior Vice President	Sherri Teeples	(586) 292-8132
Judge Advocate	Christine Tonegatto-Salo	(586) 801-0081	Judge Advocate	Joan Pfaff	(586) 263-3448
Adjutant/Paymaster	Don Lyon	(586) 925-5010	Co-Chaplain	Wendy Succarde	
Chaplain	James Dewey	(910) 333-2224	Co-Chaplain	Delores Tonegatto	(586)781-6839
Sergeant at Arms	Clement Buck	(586)383-3940	Secretary	Irene Spooner	(586) 466-5708
Editor, Newsletter	Elaine Arnold	(248) 606-2600	Treasurer	Irene Spooner	(586) 466-5708
Honor Guard Commander	Ron Hudas	(586) 264-2575	Auditor	Joan Pfaff	(586)263-3448
Quartermaster	Dean Miles	(586) 457-7008	Auditor	Sharon Renaud	
Deputy Quartermaster	John Sternicki	(586) 468-1014			
Historian	Greg Pawlik	(586) 979-2986			
Web Sergeant	Don Lyon	(586) 925-5010			

Change of Address: Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:

14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313
 Or email to Macomb.marines@gmail.com

New Address (please print):

Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____