



The FireFighter

Gung-Ho Means Work Together!

Iredell County MCL Detachment 1097 May 2018 Edition

May 24 - Detachment Meeting – 1900 - Troutman American Legion

Detachment website: <http://www.iredellmcl.org>

Once a Marine always a Marine

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"We served our Country.....Now we serve our Community"



Marines,

Our April meeting was dedicated to the installation of the 2017 – 2018 Detachment Officers. Glen Perkins, the Mideast District Vice Commandant executed the installation.

On Monday, May 29th do not forget to honor those veteran's that made the ultimate sacrifice. There will be several ceremonies in Iredell County but I have not received any communications on the ceremony's. I will communicate the plans for any ceremonies as soon as details are communicated to me.

The Department Convention will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2018, at the Hawthorne Inn & Conference Center in Winston-Salem, NC. Attendance by **every** League member, regardless if you are a Regular or Associate member, is welcome!. There will be a \$10 registration fee, \$10 lunch fee (or you can eat out) and a \$40 dinner fee if you plan on staying for the evening event. If you plan on attending, please contact me for details and if you are planning on staying overnight you probably need to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The primary business being accomplished at the meeting will be the election of Department Officers for 2017 – 2018. In the past, most of our attendees have only attended the Saturday business meeting.

At our May Officers meeting it was recommended that we not have a float in the June 30th Troutman Independence Day Parade because most of riders are Vietnam vets and they will be riding on the float dedicated to them. Therefore, we will utilize my pickup for those Marines that are not Vietnam vets. I will arrive early at the fairgrounds with the truck and we will do some decorating just prior to the parade. Please plan on attending.

The age of our Detachment members is increasing and many of us are not able to participate in Detachment functions. The Detachment needs to start recruiting younger Marines if we intend to continue providing community support. The Jr. Vice Commandant, Public Relations Officer and myself have talked to the Statesville Marine Recruiter and have been getting new Marines as soon as they are sworn in. These Marines are made Honorary Members of the Detachment, pay no membership fees as long as they are on active duty and we communicate with them via email. Our goal is to keep involved with them so when and if they get out they will come and join our Detachment or a Detachment elsewhere.

Anytime you see a Marine, please try to recruit him into the Detachment.

Semper Fi,
Dick Camery, Commandant



DATE

MEETING/LOCATION/TIME

- May 21 Iredell County Veterans Council – Disabled American Veterans – Statesville, NC – 1830
- May 24 South Iredell High School JROTC Awards and Promotion Ceremony – SIHS Performing Arts Center – 1130 - 1300
- May 24 Detachment Meeting – Troutman American Legion – 1900
- May 28 Memorial Day Ceremony – Details to be announced later
- Jun 18 Iredell County Veterans Council – American Legion Post 217, Statesville – 1830
- Jun 28 Detachment Meeting – Troutman American Legion – 1900
- Jun 30 Troutman, NC Annual Independence Day Parade – Details TBA
- Jun 30 MCL Dept. of NC Convention – Hawthorne Inn & Convention Center – Winston Salem, NC – see Commandants Message for details
- July 16 Iredell County Veterans Council – American Legion Post 401 Troutman (Hosted by MCL) – 1830
- July 26 Detachment Meeting – Troutman American Legion - 1900



Don't forget to pray for our sick, shut-ins, Marines and their Families.

- **Stan Thompson and wife, Pat**
- **Buddy Hemric**
- **B.J. Thomas and wife, Sandy**
- **Jackie Vanderzanden – Steve's wife**
- **Ovella Turner, Frank's wife**
- **Joe Vallone**
- **Larry Lackey**
- **Verlone Cherry**
- **Pete Meletis**
- **Pete Blinn**
- **John Hollenback**
- **Ray Lanier**
- **Dick Knapp**
- **Dennis Clary**

HEPATITIS C: TEST, TREAT, CURE

Should you get tested? Learn if you are at risk

Did you know that Veterans are more likely to have hepatitis C? The good news is that new treatments for hepatitis C are available at VA and can cure most people in about 12 weeks. VA has cured about 80,000 Veterans of hepatitis C so far. Join our march toward curing 100,000.

If you haven't had a hepatitis C test, ask your VA doctor about it at your next appointment. Risk factors for hepatitis C include if you:

- Were born between 1945 and 1965

- Have ever used a needle to inject drugs, even if once and long ago
- Had a blood transfusion or organ transplant before 1992
- Are a health care worker who had blood exposure to mucous membranes or to non-intact skin, or a needle stick injury
- Were on long-term kidney dialysis
- Were born of a mother who had hepatitis C at the time
- Are a Vietnam-era Veteran

The test for hepatitis C is a simple blood test. If you are diagnosed with hepatitis C, effective treatment is available from VA. The new treatments are oral medications (no injections) and last about 12 weeks. Side effects during treatment are minimal compared to older treatments and much more effective; the new treatments can cure over 90% of patients. See a [full list of risk factors](#).

If you know you have hepatitis C and haven't yet come in for treatment, please contact VA today. Hepatitis C can be damaging your liver if left untreated and can lead to cancer in some people. In most cases, only your regular copay is required for treatment. You can learn more about testing and treatment on the [VA hepatitis website](#).

One of My HealthVet's most popular features is Secure Messaging, which provides you with a new level of access to talk to your doctor about hepatitis C testing and treatment.

Veterans who have been cured are encouraging other Veterans to get treatment today. As one Veteran shares, "If you value life, if you value your wife, family, and grandkids, then you need to try this program. It will extend your life and you'll have more time with your family, which is the most important thing. Never give up hope."

MARINES SET TO FIELD NEW DESIGNATED MARKSMAN RIFLE

Designated marksmen are the best shots in a unit but not quite snipers.

https://www.popularmechanics.com/military/weapons/a20105927/marines-set-to-field-new-designated-marksman-rifle/?src=nl&mag=pop&list=nl_pnl_news&date=050118

RAMP UP THE SPEED ON YOUR APPEALS DECISION

As of April 2018, any Veteran with a pending appeal can opt into the Rapid Appeals Modernization Program (RAMP) — no need to wait for an invitation! You can access the [Opt-in Form](#) on the Appeals Modernization webpage. RAMP participants receive faster decisions and earlier resolution of disagreements. Get your decisions in the timely manner you deserve. Opt in today! For additional information on RAMP, see the following link:

https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/appeals-ramp.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=govdelivery&utm_campaign=may2018&utm_term=RAMP&utm_content=readmore