



# The SUNFLOWER "SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

Winter Edition 2022

Editor: Jan Denney PO Box 2175 Salina, Kansas 67402-2175

E-mail: [jadenney@cox.net](mailto:jadenney@cox.net)

## DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS 2021-2022

**COMMANDANT:** George Waugh

e-mail: [gw10502@gmail.com](mailto:gw10502@gmail.com)

**SR. VICE COMMANDANT:** VACANT

e-mail:

**JR. VICE COMMANDANT:** Wes Topel

e-mail: [Wes.topel@gmail.com](mailto:Wes.topel@gmail.com)

**SGT. AT ARMS:** Eldon "Doc" Holsey

email: [docmf.70@gmail.com](mailto:docmf.70@gmail.com)

**JUDGE ADVOCATE:** Bryson Allen

e-mail: [OldDD59.69@gmail.com](mailto:OldDD59.69@gmail.com)

**ADJUTANT / Paymaster:** Harvey Harris

e-mail: [hharris@MCLLeague.org](mailto:hharris@MCLLeague.org)

**CHAPLAIN:** Bill Koonce

e-mail: [bknoonce@gmail.com](mailto:bknoonce@gmail.com)

**Jr. Past Commandant:** Joe Hughes

e-mail: [joehughes50@gmail.com](mailto:joehughes50@gmail.com)



Commandant George Waugh

is the answer I get. I try to let them know how to find you.

Semper Fi,  
George Waugh



Jr Vice Wes Topel

Greetings Marines and Devil Docs,

The month of February has been good for Kansas as COVID cases are way down from a 7-day average of 10,464 cases on January 25 th to just 461 cases on March 1st. It's good to see restrictions being lifted and life returning somewhat to normal. This would be a good time to reach out to all detachment members that have stayed away during the

The last two years have been trying for all concerned. As we are finally turning the corner with hope of getting our life's back to closer normal we need to contact our members and thank them for supporting our detachments and renewal of their membership dues. We need to return getting the message out that we are support for Marine and Navy Corpsmen who have served with honor. Get our committees

working and get your Detachment better known in your local area. When I find Marines at events and find out they live in cities with Detachments, I ask, do you know about the Marine Corps League? No

pandemic and inform them to upcoming MCL events.

I look forward to attending the Midwest Division Spring Conference in St. Louis next month. I'm confident we will learn some great things that we can put into practice at the KS Department and Detachment levels. It would be nice to have a good showing from Kansas. The dates are April 22-23. More information and registration can be found on our website at <http://www.mcleaguekansas.com/dates.html>

The month of March has some significant military holidays and observances we should remember. Also pray for the Ukrainian Armed Forces and civilian resistance as they defend their nation. March 13 K-9 Veterans Day – The date is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and a day to honor their service. March 25 Medal of Honor Day – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States. March 29 Vietnam Veterans Day – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War.

Semper Fi,  
Wes Topel



Judge Advocate

It has been a quiet winter for your Judge Advocate but shortly business will pick up again. Later in the spring the proposed Bylaws changes for National will be released and this causes, on occasion, quite a stir among the troops. We will see what happens this year but, in any case, if you have questions about Bylaws give me a shout and I will do my best to answer promptly.

Semper Fi,  
Bryson Allen



Adj./Paymaster Harvey Harris

Detachment Paymasters are doing an excellent job with the never-ending paperwork of the League. All required reports sent promptly. We continue to try to get all our members renewed for the current year, presently standing at 313 paid up members, 56 remain to be renewed.

Paymasters remember that all Marine Corps League Forms are on the Department web page, [www.mcleaguekansas.com](http://www.mcleaguekansas.com) under Detachments, Detachment Forms. All forms are current, pdf, fillable and updated as needed. Please use these forms, makes it easy for all to read. No longer use a pencil to fill out the form use your computer, save a copy for your file, send a copy by email except the transmittal to the Department Paymaster. Transmittals need to be sent by snail mail due to a check needed for membership functions.

Reports: Transmittals when received, Life Member Audits, 990-N, KS Secretary of State renewals due in July of each year, Report of Officer Installations (ROI's) member transfers must go through department paymaster. Notice of Death Transmittal sent to Department Paymaster via email as no payment is involved, Notice of Death sent by the Detachment Chaplain to the Department Chaplain via email, copy to Department Paymaster.

The Detachment Commandant or Paymaster may anytime request rosters and one will be offered by the Department Paymaster.

Keep up the excellent work.

Semper Fi,

Harvey Harris



Chaplain Bill Koonce

Greetings Marines, Devil Docs, and Navy Chaplains,

At the start of the year, we start our New Year's resolutions. By now some struggle to continue their resolutions, others have completely stopped. There is nothing that says we cannot restart and endeavor to see them through. A resolution we should all make is to leave no Marine or Devil Dog behind. All too often we attend a detachment meeting, run through the same agenda we did the last time. We fail to observe or notice who did and didn't show up. Have we forgotten about the member who may have lost interest, the one that was ill, or perhaps one that just simply didn't get the message. We have failed ourselves and our fellow Marines by not appropriately communicating.

We are doing everything by electronic means and in doing so have failed those Marines who struggle with the information highway. We need to reach out to those members by telephone and by handwritten post card to let them know when we are meeting and that their presence is missed. We need to go the extra mile to let them know we would like to see them back.

So, remember leave no Marine or Devil Doc behind and show them that they are missed.

Detachment Chaplains

Detachment Chaplains

Please note change of contact address for reporting NODs: Report all membership deaths utilizing the Notice of Death (NOD) form. The form can be downloaded from the MCL National website at [https://www.mclnational.org/uploads/1/0/3/1/103183322/death\\_notice.pdf](https://www.mclnational.org/uploads/1/0/3/1/103183322/death_notice.pdf).

Complete the form and keep 1 copy and mail the balance to:

Department Chaplain Bill Koonce  
2453 N. 127<sup>th</sup> Ct E, Wichita, KS. 67226.

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](mailto:hharris@MCLLeague.org)

Semper Fi,  
Bill Koonce



Commandant Larry Cushenbery

Larry Cushenbery, Department of Kansas Commandant, passed away on from complications of COVID 19. Our condolence's to Larry's family and friends. A memorial service for Larry will be conducted in May. Date to be announced.



## **Department of Kansas Detachments**

### **Mount Suribachi Detachment #105**

Chartered 9 February 1955

Commandant: Larry Thompson

Adjutant Paymaster Wes Topel

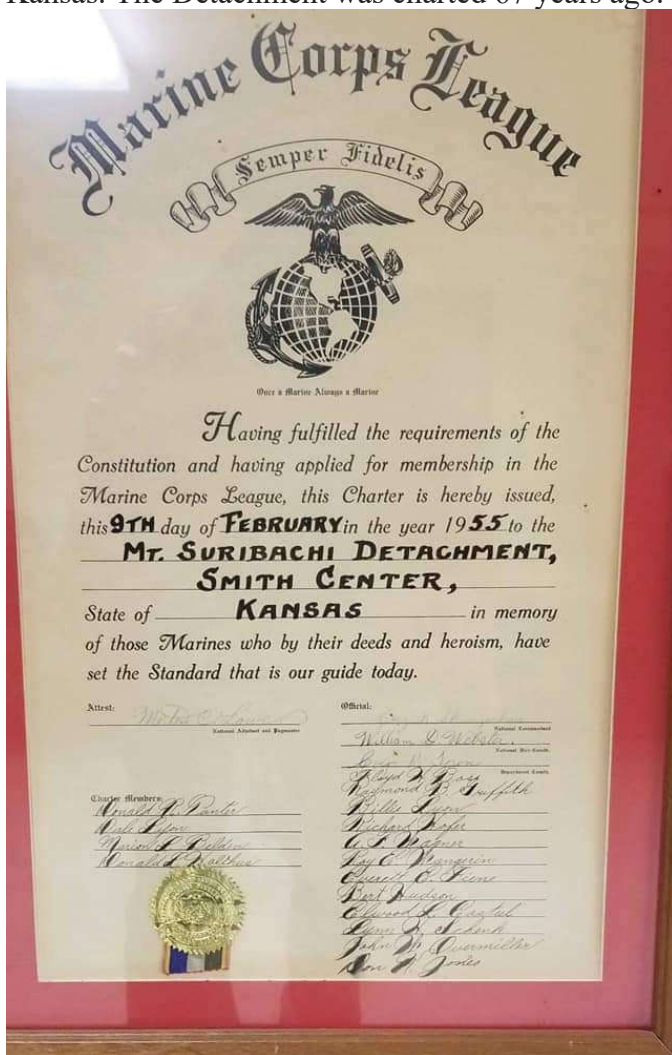
[Wes.topel@gmail.com](mailto:Wes.topel@gmail.com)

Meets 2nd Tuesday at 1900 hours

VFW Post 1141

620 A St  
Smith Center, KS 66967  
Detachment Contact 785.695.2357

Mt Suribachi Detachment in the Department of Kansas. The Detachment was chartered 67 years ago.



Mt Suribachi gained 4 new members and lost JS Wagner WWII Charter member Mt Suribachi Det. Funeral 27 Nov 1000. Charter Member and past Det Commandant Floyd Bore passed this last quarter.

Paymaster and Vice Commandant Wes Topel Transferred to Wichita Det. He will be missed by all in our Det. Thank you LTC Wes Topel.

Mt Suribachi Det participated in the Smith Center Old Settlers Day parade in September and the Veterans Day Parade Kensington Ks.



Hummer had 13 flags for the Afghanistan fallen and our USMC Flag. New member Jo Ostoff and her children drove my Hummer in the Old Settlers Day Parade. I rode my trike wearing my MCL cover and carried the USA and USMC flags.

Semper Fi,  
Larry Thompson, Commandant

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

Chartered 6 January 1986  
Commandant: Dale Meadows  
Meets 3rd Sunday at 1830 hours  
VFW Post 1186 113 E Myrtle  
Independence, KS 67301  
Detachment Contact 620.330.6070

The Detachment lost Dan Dollison on 14 December. Dan served in many offices in the League including being the first Commandant of the Department of Kansas.

### Gen. Lewis W. Walt Detachment #682

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



Here we are, on the downhill run, waiting for the warm weather to arrive so we can get outside and enjoy life. The General Lewis W. Walt Detachment is looking for a new slate of officers. At the present time, due to getting old, moving, medical problems we are four (4) officers short. Our detachment is unable to function without a quorum. Due to continued COVID problems, moving from the area and average age continuing to increase and the lack of members willing to become officers the General Lewis W. Walt Detachment has become Inactive. We need members to become involved and return our detachment to being a functional unit within the Marine Corps League. Any member of the General Lewis W. Walt Detachment wanting to become an officer of the detachment please contact Paul McGuire, Commandant at paulmcguire574@yahoo.com.

Semper Fidelis,  
Paul McGuire, Commandant

### **Tri Rivers Detachment #730**

Chartered 10 November 1990  
Commandant: Randall Carlson  
Adjutant Paymaster Cindy Klingaman  
Chartered 10 November 1990  
Meets 3rd Tuesday at 1900 hours  
VFW 1108 W. Crawford  
Salina, KS 67401  
Detachment Contact 785.826.5087

The Tri Rivers Detachment has lost two outstanding Marines with the passing of Detachment Commandant Larry Cushenbery and PDC Alvie Furbeck.

Alvie was a Charter member of the Detachment, the Chartering Commandant and a Past Department of Kansas Commandant.

Semper Fidelis,  
Jan Denney

### **Edwin A Schumacher Detachment #740**

Chartered 11 November 1990  
Commandant: Dan Dischner  
Adjutant Paymaster Joshua Enslow  
[joshuawsu@gmail.com](mailto:joshuawsu@gmail.com)  
Meets 1st Tuesday at 1930 hours  
VFW Post  
22<sup>nd</sup> & Vine

Hays, KS. 67601  
Detachment Contact 785.261.0779

Members of the detachment held its first real Toys for Tots program this year. We collected over 2,000 toys and distributed them to over 400 kids. We serviced three counties this year and are looking at a way to cover up to 12 next year. We also purchased 22 tricycles and bicycles and distributed them.

Hays has formed a coalition of veteran MCL, VFW, VVA, DAV, and American Legion. This was created to help the groups work together and not against each other. Two officers from each organization meet every three months and discuss upcoming events. We have agreed to form a Color Guard for the local parades etc. Honor Guard will remain with the VFW.

Semper Fi,  
Dan Dischner-Commandant

### **Air Capital Detachment #773**

Chartered 30 June 1994  
Commandant: Alan Daniels  
Paymaster Andy Babb  
[notalus@gmail.com](mailto:notalus@gmail.com)  
Meets 3rd Tuesday  
Social Time 1830  
Meeting 1900 hours  
American Legion Post 4  
816 North Water St  
Wichita, KS 67203  
Detachment Contact 316.342.6209

NO REPORT

### **Gen. Larry Oppenheimer Detachment #1025**

Chartered 13 December 1999  
Commandant: Joel Wilson  
Paymaster Bill Clinton  
[bdclint@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bdclint@sbcglobal.net)  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 1900 hours  
VFW Post 7397  
9550 Pflumm Road  
Lenexa, KS 66215  
Detachment Contact 913-492-1199

No Report



**MIDWEST DIVISION**  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



It was my honor to represent the Division at the MCL Mid-Winter Conference in Norfolk, VA.

On a special note, our very own Bryson Allen was nominated for the title of Honorary Past National Commandant (PNC). Bryson was nominated for his several years' service at all levels of the League by the PNC Society and the motion was passed by unanimous vote on the floor of the Conference. Congratulations Marine This is an honor that is well deserved.

Due to health issues, I will not be a candidate for the Office of National Vice Commandant (NVC) for the Midwest Division April Election. The newly elected NVC will begin their term at the National Convention in August 2022.

I want to spend my remaining days becoming closer to my God and enjoying life alongside of my beautiful wife Jan Marie. She has been my resource of strength that has enabled me to serve these past months and she deserves to be repaid in full. Our future will be about us and not my cancer.

Semper Fidelis,  
Jan A. Denney MWD NVC  
National Vice Commandant (NVC)  
Midwest Division  
jdenney@MCLeague.org

### **The Military Order of the Devil Dogs**



**Worthy Pack Leader**  
**Kansas Pack**  
**The Military Order of the Devil Dogs**

WOOF, WOOF!

Pound Keepers If you have a Pup who wants to advance to Devil Dog at the June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Department of Kansas Conference / Kansas Pack Growl in Wichita, KS please fill out and sign the Advancement form on the MODD website.

<https://militaryorderofthedevildogs.org/publications>  
/Once completed please email me a signed copy so we will be prepared for the Devil Dog Ritual and submission of the paperwork to the Kennel.

These new Devil Dogs will be eligible to be elevated to the Degree of PDD at 100th Anniversary of the Marine Corps League Convention / Oklahoma City, Oklahoma / Supreme Growl, in August 2023.

WOOF, WOOF!  
PDD Joe Hughes  
Worthy Kansas Pack Leader

Woof, woof all dogs, welcome to the new year, now is the time for Pound Growls. All dogs need to get out of the Doghouse, stretch our legs, bark a little. The Pack is looking good, currently the Kansas Pack has 64 Dogs. 25 PDD's, 20 Devil Dogs, and 19 Pups. We need to keep looking for qualified members to bring into the Pack. The Pack has 19 Pups we need to get advanced to Devil Dog and then replace them with new Pups. Our next Supreme Growl for advancement from Devil Dog to PDD will be in Daytona Beach, FL, 17 August 2022. 2023 Supreme Growl is scheduled for Oklahoma City.

Semper Woofing,  
PDD Harvey Harris  
Kansas Pack Dog Robber

**Kennel Website:** [www.moddkennel.org](http://www.moddkennel.org)  
Kansas Pack Website:  
<http://www.mcleaguekansas.com/modd.html>

**Kansas Pack Officers 2021-2022**  
**Pack Leader:** PDD Joe Hughes  
[JoeHughes50@gmail.com](mailto:JoeHughes50@gmail.com)  
913.894.2006  
**Pack Dog Robber:** PDD Harvey Harris  
[hharris@MCLeague.org](mailto:hharris@MCLeague.org)  
785.640.6077



### **TAPS**

**Alvie M Furbeck  
Tri Rivers Detachment  
DOD 29 January 2022**

**Larry Cushenbery  
Tri Rivers Detachment  
21 October 2021**

**Dan Dollison  
SEK Detachment  
14 December 2021**

**Jerry W Ingram  
Gen. Larry Oppenheimer  
17 December 2021**

**"J.S." Wagner  
Mount Suribachi Detachment  
19 November 2021**

**Thomas Wilson  
Gen Larry Oppenheimer Detachment  
9 December 2021**

**Scott Gard  
Air Capital Detachment  
2 February 2022**

**John Kiser  
Air Capital Detachment  
24 February 2022**

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **Midwest Division Fall Conference**

Conference will be held in St Louis, Missouri  
April 22-23, 2022  
Hosted by Lincoln County Marines Detachment #  
1405, Troy, Missouri  
**Location:**  
Maryland Heights Westport Chalet  
191 W. Port Plaza Dr.  
St Louis, Missouri 63146

**Reservations open**  
Room rate: \$109/night +tax  
Phone: 314-878-1500

Room rates good 3 days prior and 3 days after, Free  
Parking, Free Shuttle from Airport, 4 camp grounds  
within 10 miles

Uniform for the opening and memorial service will  
be Cover and Red Blazer for Division Officers and  
Staff.

Uniform for meeting will be cover, white shirt or  
polo shirt.

### **Scuttlebutt Editor**

**We are searching for a new Scuttlebutt Editor.**  
**If you are interested contact Jan Denney**  
**785-826-5087**



### **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***