

December 14, 2020

## Commandant's Message

Marines, we are about to close the 2020 year, and I can say this year has certainly been different. Many of us have faced many challenges with this nation-wide pandemic. Many families have suffered the loss of revenue, employment and even lost a loved one. However, we keep marching forward trying to put one foot in front of the other. I truly hope that 2021 brings new beginnings and a positive atmosphere.

With Christmas right around the corner, it really feels different. The festivities this time of year have either gone virtual or have been cancelled. Who would ever thought I would take my grandchildren to see Santa only to find him behind Plexiglas. It has been a difficult time for many, but we will get through it.

In the New Year, we will see some new changes within the detachment. In May, we will have an election and installation of officers. Phil Hebner will become the new Detachment Commandant, and Walter Cornett will become the new Senior Vice. Phil and Walter have done an excellent job in their roles these past two years.

In fact, all the Detachment officers have done extremely well, except for our Paymaster Fred Marotta. That is a full-time job keeping up with him and making sure I have a fire extinguisher handy at all times. No, in all seriousness Fred has done an excellent job and being the Paymaster is a job that doesn't get enough gratitude.

As my reign as Detachment Commandant comes to an end, I will be focusing on a new endeavor. As many know, I was elected and installed as the new Senior Vice Commandant for the Department of Virginia. I thought I would be able to take a seat for a few years after being Detachment Commandant. However, our new Department Commandant, Dave Glasgow, didn't let that happen. It is extremely humbling to know that Dave and the rest of the Department have that much confidence in me.

When I joined the league, I never thought I would take on a role as Commandant or even at the Department level for that matter. It has been a great experience and I can honestly say I have enjoyed every step.

As we close out 2020, I want to say Merry Christmas to every member of this Detachment. I wish you and your families nothing but a healthy holiday filled with laughter and joy during these difficult times. May the Lord continue his many blessings as we set our sights on a new year. Until we meet again....

Semper Fidelis,

Mark Moore, Commandant  
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Marine Corps League