

# The SUNFLOWER "SCUTTLEBUTT"

Official "Mouthpiece" of the Department of Kansas, Marine Corps League October 2017 Editor: Jan Denney PO Box 2175 Salina, Kansas 67402-2175 E-mail: jadenney@cox.net

#### **DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS 2017-2018**

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JR. VICE COMMANDANT: John Byrnes

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**ADJUTANT / Paymaster:** Harvey Harris

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**SGT. AT ARMS:** Eldon "Doc" Holsey email: docfmf.70@gmail.com



Commandant Jan Denney

#### Greetings,

It was my immense pleasure to represent the Department at the National Convention in Overland Park. I offer my congratulations to the General Larry Oppenheimer Detachment #1025 for a job well done in hosting the Convention.

You can look forward to remarkable things to happen under the command of National Commandant Webb, his staff and the Board of Trustees.

Now it's back to work. Recruitment and Retention is still the name of the game. Remember, all non-life memberships expired on 1 September. The Detachment 9/30/2017 Rosters were emailed to Detachment Commandants and Paymasters. These

Rosters Reports reflect some high numbers delinquent members. These members need to be contacted and brought back into the ranks.

Paymasters – be diligent in submitting your transmittals to the Department Paymaster in a timely manner. Please do not sit on transmittals. If you wait on a full sheet before sending to the Department Paymaster, errors of omission can occur.

The 2018 National Convention will be hosted by the Department of New York and will be held at The Hyatt Hotel and the Buffalo Convention Center. The Hyatt is accepting reservations now. Check the website for additional information. http://2018mclnationalconvention.com/

The 2019 National Convention will be in Billings, Montana.

I will be attending The Midwest Fall Conference October 20-22 in St Louis. I hope you can attend.

Semper Fidelis, Jan Denney 785-826-5087



Sr. Vice Commandant Joe Hughes

Greetings, this is my first opportunity after the 2017 Marine Corps League National Convention to thank everyone in the Department of Kansas and the Detachments in Kansas for their unwavering support and enthusiastic eagerness in supporting this effort over the last two and a half years. The convention was very popular and successful. The week lead off with an Early Bird trip to the World War I Memorial and Museum for a tour followed by Pot Roast dinner. Each evening event was as popular as the night before. Events during the week included a BBQ Dinner catered by Jack Stacks Restaurant, New Theater Dinner and Show, Ameristar Casino, ending with a great Grand Banquet dinner followed by a 12-piece band and dancing. The banquet was one of the largest in recent memory, 442 dinner guests. The evening ended with comments ranging from "great conference" to "best conference experience I can remember". We averaged about 40 volunteers per day, great turnout Marines and spouses. Refer to the Devil Dog section of this newsletter for more record setting information at this convention.

Semper Fi Joe Hughes,



Jr. Vice Commandant John Byrnes

Marines, I'm going to keep this short, membership recruiting and retaining is one thing we all need to be doing. If your Detachment is not using some sort of social media like Facebook or Twitter you need to, both are free to use. This year everyone's dues were due on September 1<sup>st</sup> so if you have not renewed your membership yet please do so.

Semper Fi, John Byrnes



Adj. / Paymaster Harvey Harris

Greetings, where has the year gone? Before we know it, it will be snowing. Not ready for that. Looking at our latest roster dated 10-01-17, the Department of Kansas has 143 overdue/unpaid members and 292 paid up members for a total of 435. That works out to be 48.9% delinquent. can do better than that. At the current time, only 15 Transmittals have been received at Department and most of them have only one or two renewals listed. Now is the time to renew your memberships with detachment paymaster. All non-life your memberships will be due for renewal again on 09-01 of each coming year.

The Paymasters training for the new database has not been set up yet. As soon as it is scheduled the information will be e-mailed to all paymasters. Training will most likely be conducted by Webinar. By doing the training by Webinar all paymasters can be online at the same time allowing direct questioning with the instructor, hands on experience entering data into the new forms. Department Paymaster will email a current list of Detachment Commandant's and Paymasters to each detachment. The 10-01-2017 Department Roster was sent out for verification of members information. We need to verify name, address, phone number, e-mail address for all members and indicate under 50 over 50 years The purpose of e-mail is to allow rapid of age. contact with members and reduce the cost of mailings.

For Detachment Paymasters, one change will be to obtain from the Detachment Chaplain the information on the Notice of Death form, send the information by Transmittal. The only information required will be the name, address members MCL number, Life membership number if a life member and indicated by code (NOD), numbered as all other Transmittals. Example: 0682-18-001-01. This change is required because in the past the NOD may have been misplaced, and renewals or correspondence were received by next of kin. By utilizing a Transmittal, along with the NOD form mistakes may be eliminated.

Semper Fidelis, Harvey L. Harris, NVC Department Adjutant / Paymaster PO Box 67582 Topeka, KS 66667-0582



Judge Advocate Bryson Allen

Once again it is my pleasure to announce that there were no grievances nor Chapter 9's filed in the Department so far this year. My only official function is to inform you that the proposed Bylaw changes at this year's National Convention were not voted on. There were many typo's that needed correction and other issues so they were delayed until August 2018. Hopefully these proposed changes will be available at Mid-Winter so we will have sufficient time to study them and make recommendations. Other than that, I look forward to cooler weather and more quiet times, as far as official business is concerned, until next year.

Semper Fidelis, Bryson L. Allen



Chaplain Robert Patterson

As I sit here, I ponder the difficulties of individuals and of society.

With individuals, I contemplate the varied and vast varieties of difficulties we as human beings face. We face illness, job loss, marital issues, and loss of a family member or friend. We must face the realities of a world imperfect in many ways. The brutal murders and starvation of whole countries, while the powerful benefit from their suffering. We witness the devastation and the calamities of nature and of man. We respond to those incidents and provide support and comfort, yet it is for those who suffer to reestablish their lives and livelihoods.

Government and volunteers can only do so much to relieve the anxiety and anxiousness of those who have been devastated.

Now we witness the inexcusable and unexplainable shooting of hundreds of innocent people. For what? What was the purpose? What is the motivation? We are a civilized society. We are here to care about one another. Our well-being depends on one another. Where have we failed? What is our destiny?

2 Corinthians 1: 3-5 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. He comforts us in all our afflictions, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any kind of afflictions, through the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so our comfort overflows through Christ."

**Detachments**: Report all membership deaths utilizing the *Notice of Death* forms. Complete the form; keep 1 copy and mail the balance to:

Department Chaplain Robert Patterson 14323 Marty Street, Overland Park, Ks. 66223-2290.

The Department Chaplain will forward the forms to National. Following this procedure ensures that the Department, National and Semper Fi magazine are correctly informed of your member's death.

Semper Fidelis, Robert Patterson



## **Department of Kansas**

### **Detachments**

Mount Suribachi Detachment #105 Meets 2nd Tuesday at 1900 hours VFW 620 A St Smith Center, KS 66967

Phone 785.695.2357

We have our Detachment Bingo day for the VA Hospital Grand Island Ne 19 Oct. and Old Settlers Day Parade in Smith Center on 23 September 2017.



Detachment 105 Mt Suribachi Smith Center Commandant Larry A. Thompson's trike ready for Old Settlers day parade.



Semper Fi, Larry Thompson, Commandant

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

Meets 3rd Tuesday at 1900 hours VFW 1108 W. Crawford Salina, KS 67401 Phone 785.826.5087 Detachment Officers Jr. Vice Alvie Furbeck, Sr. Vice Larry Cushenbery and Adj. / Paymaster Jan Denney attended the 2017 National Convention and the Military Order of the Devil Dogs' Supreme Growl in Overland Park, KS. Cushenbery and Furbeck received their gold collars as Pedigreed Devil Dogs after receiving two and one-half days of training and initiation.

The Raminator Monster Trucks returned on Saturday 16 September to benefit the Marine Toy Box. Almost 600 men, women and children paid \$3.00 each to ride the Raminator Monster Truck.

The Detachment will host a celebration the United States Marine Corps 242<sup>nd</sup> Birthday on 10 November at the Courtyard by Marriott in Salina. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

Semper Fidelis, Jan Denney, Adjutant / Paymaster

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

Meets 3rd Sunday at 1830 hours VFW Post 1186 113 E Myrtle Independence, KS 67301 Phone 620.331.1874

Our Detachment provided a color guard for the dedication of the beautiful veteran's memorial in Chetopa on Saturday, September 16th. John Caldwell, Charles Davis, Dan Dollison and David Fugua did the honors. There was a real nice turnout of at least 500 and the site is the highway just prior to crossing the river. Great location. I had planned to attend the National Convention but priorities changed and I had to cancel. Hope all that attended had a great time. We will again lead the Neewollah parade on October 28th and the Thanksgiving/Christmas Parade on November 19th. Both in Independence. We are again meeting after a two-month hiatus. We met Sunday, September 17th and afterwards held a MODD Growl and held our election. Our Birthday Ball will be on Friday, November 10th at the Independence VFW commencing at 1800 and all are invited.

Semper Fidelis, Dan Dollison, Adjutant/Paymaster

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

Meets 4th Thursday at 1900 hours VFW Post 1650 Topeka, KS 66604 Phone 785.273.2149

NO REPORT

#### Gen. Larry Oppenheimer Detachment #1025

Meets 4th Wednesday at 1900 hours VFW Post 7397 9550 Pflumm Road Lenexa, KS 66215 (913) 492-1199

Third quarter 2017 was one of the busiest and most rewarding quarters ever for Detachment #1025. We stayed heavily involved in our community work and delivered on our promise to put together one of the best National Conventions ever. From the feedback we have received, those who attended truly enjoyed our city, the National Convention, and the fellowship of all the Marine Corps League members who attended.

I would like to share with everyone a picture of all the volunteers that made the convention a success. Without each of these wonderful individuals it wouldn't have happened.





Morning Colors



Opening Ceremonies



Sunday evening, League members enjoyed the WW1 Museum



Tuesday evening at the New Dinner Theater



We finished off the week with the Grand Banquet and dancing, Closing out a week we will all remember.

It was a long week of hard work by all, but it was fun and we met many new friends from all over the country.

September saw our league members back to work with fund raising and community service events. We hosted BBQ lunches Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at Rawhide Harley Davidson. Then a BBQ dinner at VFW post 7397on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. By the way our BBQ is always fantastic, stop by one of our events and try some.

Semper Fi, Ken Fain Senior Vice Commandant

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

Meets 3rd Tuesday Social Time 1830 Meeting 1900 hours American Legion Post 4 816 North Water St Wichita, KS 67203 Phone 316.641.8076

#### NO REPORT

**Edwin A Schumacher Detachment #740** 

Meets 1st Tuesday at 1930 hours National Guard Armory Main St. Hays, KS. 67601 Phone 785,628,3067

The Edwin A. Schumacher Detachment honored the LeRoy Herrman family in August with a dinner and plaque. LeRoy is a longtime league member whose volunteered his time and talent to the detachment since its charter date. The detachment was allowed to use an office inside the Herrman family owned business for our monthly meetings for nearly two decades. This was our way to show our appreciation to LeRoy and wife Bernice.

On Labor Day, league members helped another longtime league member celebrate. Frank Pfannenstiel turned 90 years old on Sept. 6. His family hosted a dinner social and invited all of our league members. A great time was had by all!

We've reserved the banquet room at Thristy's Brew Pub & Grill for Friday, November 10, to celebrate the Corps 242nd birthday.

We also plan to participate in the Frost Fest Parade in downtown Hays on December 16. This parade is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and The Bricks. This is a night time parade, so we plan to deck out our trailer with lights & music in a patriotic theme.

Semper Fi, Asher C. White, Chaplain



# THE MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS Kansas Pack



PDD Eldon "Doc" Holsey

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

Greetings to all of the Kansas Pack;

Well, another National Convention and Supreme Growl are in the books. The group of Marines that worked very hard to get the National Convention going did a superb job and should be commended. We did hear some moaning and groaning, however, if you have ever been involved in getting anything like this together; that is going to happen.

We also, brought in a new pound from Lenexa, Kansas, now designated Kansas Pound 378. John Byrnes is the newly elected "Pound Keeper", and John will do a good job! All of those Dawgs did well with their Passports and during the swearing in ceremony. (A quick note: the Lenexa pound will be having a growl, their first, the fourteenth of October if any of you dawgs out there would like to attend, John has indicated all are welcome. It will be held at the Lenexa VFW at 10:30 a.m. You can contact John at his email: jjbyrnes23@gmail.com.

Getting back to the Supreme Growl, thanks to all of you dawgs and around the nation, a check was given to Children's Mercy Hospital in the amount of 50,000 BIG BONES.



57<sup>th</sup> Chief Devil Dog C.O. Smith presenting check to representatives of Children' Mercy Hospital that represents the 50,000 Big Bones donated by the Devil Dogs.



58<sup>th</sup> Chief Devil Dog Leonard Spicer (L) and PCDD C.O. Smith

Our own Leonard Spicer was elected to the post of Chief Devil Dog overwhelmingly. Leonard assumed his new office at the Supreme Growl.



Additional happenings at the National Convention, the Pack of Kansas had a raffle for a M-1A. I did not get a photograph of the winner with the rifle, (see above) John Henry Mashunkashey, from Oklahoma had the winning ticket. (He is not the good looking one on the right.)

Also, a big "Congratulations" to all the Dawgs that elevated to Pedigree Devil Dog at this National Convention:

**Pound 094** – PDD Alan Daniel, PDD Richard Pustka (Transferred to Pound 378), PDD Forrest Evans and PDD Jim Woods;

**Pound 196** – PDD William Bailey (Transferred to Pound 378)

**Pound 365** – PDD Alvie Furbeck and PDD Larry Cushenbery

Remember to have a growl and election of Dawgs and forward those to PDD Harvey Harris to go to Kennel.)

If any of you want to elevate to PDD in the future, the next National Convention is in Buffalo, New York – August 2018. The next convention will be in Billings, Montana. So, put your thinking cover on and get to one of those conventions.

One more thing; I need all the Pound Keepers to get all of your doings for this year through Christmas together and send me your information so I can forward to Division. Parades, picnics, Toys for Tots anything you are involved with and I will forward our lists to Division.

Everyone have a great holiday season these coming months and my heartiest best wishes to one and all.

WOOF-WOOF! PDD Eldon "Doc" Holsey

Woof-Woof!

Greetings to the new PDD's in the KS Pack. At the National Conference, Overland Park, Ks the Kansas Pack had 8 Devil Dogs advance to Pedigree Devil Dog. Congratulation PDD Daniel, PDD Richard Pustka, PDD Frosty Evans, PDD Jimmie Wood, PDD William Bailey, PDD Tony Cook, PDD Alvie Furbeck and PDD Larry Cushenbery.

The KS Pack now consists of four Pounds, 094 Wichita, 196 Topeka (located in Independence) 365 Salina and newly created Lenexa Pound 378. For a total 63 Devil Dogs. Thanks to Pack Leader PDD Doc Holsey, nothing but good comments were received at the Supreme Growl.

Now is the time to seek out proper candidates within your detachments and invite them to join the "Fun and Honor Society". We need Pups to round out our Pounds.

All Pounds need to conduct a growl within 90 days of the Supreme Growl (11-12-2017) to elect new leadership for their Pounds. Get the Passport fees in so Kennel can attempt to beat the MODD RECORD DONATION of BIG BONES, made to the Children's Hospital during the National Convention. By the way the amount of the donation to Children's Hospital was \$50,000. The kids sure can use it.

The Pack of Kansas donated 2000 Big Bones to Emergency Disaster Relief Fund managed by the Marine Corps League Foundation to assist children in need due to the recent hurricanes in Texas and Florida.

Keep up the outstanding work Dog Robbers,

Semper Woofing PDD Harvey Harris -Dog Robber – Kansas Pack

#### Kansas Pack Officers 2016-17

Pack Leader: PDD Eldon "Doc" Holsey docfmf70@gmail.com 316-774-0752

Dog Robber: PDD Harvey Harris

harvey.harris@att.net 785.640.6077

Sr. Vice: PDD Dan Dollison
Jr. Vice: PDD Harvey Harris
Smart Dog: PDD Tom Huxtable
Dog Trainer: PDD Phillip Griffee
Mad Dog: PDD Alvie Furbeck
Police Dog: DD Joe Hughes
Watch Dog: DD John Byrnes
Barking Dog: PDD Jan Denney



**TAPS**Benjamin V Bellmore SEK Detachment 8/11/17

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



## **2018 Department of Kansas Conference**

2 June 2018 Hosted by B. Gen. William A. Kurtis / SEK Detachment #612



#### **Marine Corps History**

10 November 1921: This date marked the first formal commemoration of the birthday of the Marine Corps as 10 November. On 21 October 1921, Maj Edwin McClellan, OIC of the Historical Section, HQMC, sent a memo to Maj.Gen.Commandant John A. Lejeune, suggesting that the original birthday of 10 November 1775 be declared a Marine Corps holiday to be celebrated throughout the Corps. Accordingly, on 1 Nov 1921, Gen Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 47 summarizing the history, mission, and tradition of the Corps, and directed that it be read to every command each 10 November.

13 November 1982: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated this date at the Memorial site in Washington, D.C. The dedication and parade that preceded it were part of a week-long National Salute to Vietnam Veterans.

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



#### Scuttlebutt and Booster Club

To join the Booster Club and Support the Scuttlebutt, remit \$5.00 per year. Make your check payable to Department of Kansas, MCL and mail to: Dept. of Kansas Paymaster PO Box 67582 Topeka, KS 66667-0582

If you know a member who is not receiving the email addition and would like to be added to the email address list, have them email a request to jadenney@ cox.net



# Marine Corps League – National Headquarters

MCL National Website <a href="http://www.mclnational.org/">http://www.mclnational.org/</a>

Mailing Address:

Marine Corps League National Headquarters 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway Suite 115 Stafford, VA 22554

#### **WEBSITES**

Department of Kansas Website <a href="http://www.mcleaguekansas.com/home.html">http://www.mcleaguekansas.com/home.html</a>

Midwest Division Website http://www.midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org/

Next Scuttlebutt Deadline is 10 January 2018

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!