



# SCUTTLEBUTT

Hiram I Bearss Detachment 089

Marine Corps League

550 S Audubon Rd

Indianapolis, IN 46219-8110

317-546-7228

[info@indymarines.org](mailto:info@indymarines.org)



**JANUARY 2026**

Commandant	Jochen Hardwick
Senior Vice	Otto A Dowlen, III
Jr Vice	Sam Heitzman
Paymaster	Bill Mason
Adjutant	Grace Labens
Judge Advocate	Consuelo (Connie) Hamm
Chaplain	Carlos Quintana
Sgt-at-Arms	Joe Prindle
Quartermaster	Vacant
WebSgt	Lloyd Louks
Scuttlebutt Editor	Consuelo (Connie) Hamm
MODD Pound Keeper	Lloyd Louks

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Note from the Editor:** We need someone to provide the meal for the January meeting. Please respond to [info@indymarines.org](mailto:info@indymarines.org) if you intend to provide the meal.



## Senior Vice Notes

Happy New Year Marines,

Hopefully everyone had a wonderful Christmas with friends and family. Congratulations again to Bill Mason (2025 HIB Marine of the Year) and Christie Dowlen (2025 HIB Associate of the Year) for their well deserved recognition. Who will rise to the challenge and claim the awards for 2026? As we begin the new year think about how you can make an impact on our detachment. The opportunities will present themselves. It's up to you to seize them!! Proud of serve with you!! Semper Fi!!



# **HIRAM I BEARSS DETACHMENT**

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE DETACHMENT**

### **Christmas Party 2025**

The HIB 2025 Christmas Party was a success due in large part to Associate member Julie Jones who catered the event. Everyone had a wonderful time and the Detachment was able to show it's appreciation to members by providing awards to the members that have made the HIB Detachment not only possible but have made it one of the best Detachments in the state. Thank you!

### **Awards**

**"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. But, the Marines don't have that problem." – Ronald Regan**

Each year the HIB Detachment acknowledges the efforts of members that have made a difference and have helped the Detachment throughout the year. We wish to thank everyone that has made this Detachment possible. Please know that we appreciate your efforts.

**The Hiram I Bearss Detachment Marine of the Year and Associate of the Year are awarded to a regular member and associate member of the Detachment that have exemplified the ideals and vision of the Marine Corps and Marine Corps League.**

**Congratulations to the HIB Marine of the Year, Bill Mason.**



Bill has served as Detachment Paymaster and has served with integrity and passion. Although new to the Detachment within the past 3 years, Bill agreed to serve during a stressful time and was eager to learn the job of Paymaster even while learning about the League and Detachment. He has served without complaining even when constantly under pressure to ensure that HIB financial matters are reconciled and resolved. We appreciate Bill's leadership and attention to detail. Well deserved Bill!

## **Congratulations to the HIB Associate of the Year, Christie Dowlen.**



Christie was of great assistance during a spring conference where she served the Detachment by operating our Ship's Store table which produced additional income to the Detachment. This would not have been possible without Christie's assistance. Thank you Christie.

### **Distinguished Service Award:**

The certificate that is given for the Distinguished Service Award states: ***The Distinguished Service Award is awarded in appreciation and gratitude for meritorious service in the interests of the United States of America, the United States Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League.*** The award acknowledges extraordinary efforts that members provide to the Marine Corps League and to the HIB Detachment. Without these efforts the Detachment would cease to exist. The following individuals were awarded the Distinguished Service Award due to their efforts and commitment to the Hiram I Bearss Detachment.

**Dennis LeBlanc** – Dennis has proven his leadership and commitment to the Hiram I Bearss Detachment time and again having served in various past offices. The continuation of the Detachment is due in large part to Dennis' leadership and. Without Dennis' advice and leadership the Detachment would not have the successful income sources that we have had. Dennis has also been our gaming expert as well as stepping up at the gun shows and has stepped up in place of absent staff during meetings. He actively participates during Detachment meetings and Department conferences. He displays the *esprit de corps* that is the heart of the Marine Corps and Marine Corps League.

**Grace Labens** – Grace has served as the HIB Adjutant for the past two years but has readily stepped up and volunteered wherever needed. Grace pays attention to detail and ensures that correspondence is properly distributed. Having been selected as Associate of the Year for 2023 and 2024, Grace continues to actively participate by offering suggestions, anticipating needs and taking action when needed.

**Sam Heitzman** – Sam serves as Junior Vice Commandant for the HIB Detachment. Sam also takes the lead in setting up and coordinating our participation in gun shows. It is with Sam's leadership that the gun shows continue to be a source of income for the Detachment. Along with taking the lead with the gun shows, Sam also makes himself available for various projects and assists in coordinating events.

**Jochen Hardwick** – As the current Commandant of the HIB Detachment Jochen has continuously exhibited his leadership and passion for the Marine Corps, the Marine Corps League and it's mission. From cleaning the barracks, to pulling weeds, to moving a shed, no task has been too small or too large for Jochen to take on. Leading by example and leading without thought of reward or compensation is standard for Jochen.

### **Special Detachment Award**

This year the Detachment presented Connie Hamm with a special Detachment award for her efforts above and beyond her service to the Detachment.

### **Certificate of Appreciation – This certificate states, In appreciation of your support of the activities and mission of the Hiram I Bearss Detachment and the Marine Corps League.**

The members below were awarded Certificates of Appreciation for their assistance in various Detachment activities. Although only one event may be mentioned members frequently help with several events.

Jerry Parson (Ship's Store)

Rusty Parson (Gun Show)

Mike Wright (Gun Show)

Sam Heitzman (Gun Show)

Jochen Hardwick (Gun Show)

Otto A Dowlen, III (Gun Show)

Joe Prindle (Gun Show)

Grace Labens (Gun Show)

Connie Hamm (Gun Show)

Carlos Quintana (Gun Show)

Nathan Simcox (Gun Show, Oddities Market)

Brandon Bewley (Gun Show)

Doug Hardwick (Gun Show)

Steve Jones (Gun Show)

Bill Mason (Gun Show)

Vincent Lizano (neighbor-assistance with truck incident at Barracks)

Fire Department (assistance with flag pole)

Julie Jones (Christmas Party)

Tawnya Hardwick (assistance with Ballard event)

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## FUND RAISING

We currently have two major fund raisers going on to assist us in paying expenses involved in maintaining the building and helping with community outreach.

1. **200 Club** – This is a year long drawing that provides three opportunities per month for a token to be selected.

DRAW DATE	1ST TOKEN	AMOUNT	2 <sup>ND</sup> TOKEN	AMOUNT	3 <sup>RD</sup> TOKEN	AMOUNT
1/9/2025	10	\$100.00	17	\$50.00	21	\$50.00
2/13/2025	32	\$100.00	6	\$50.00	44	\$50.00
3/13/2025	35	\$100.00	1	\$50.00	38	\$50.00**
4/10/2025	51	\$100.00	16	\$50.00	20	\$50.00
5/8/2025	12	\$100.00	29	\$50.00	49	\$50.00
6/12/2025	35	\$100.00	11	\$50.00	47	\$50.00
7/10/2025	31	\$100.00	61	\$50.00	59	\$50.00
8/14/2025	58	\$100.00**	78	\$50.00**	60	\$50.00
9/11/2025	59	\$100.00	16	\$50.00	65	\$50.00
10/09/2025	41	\$100.00	18	\$50.00	20	\$50.00
11/13/2025	59	\$100.00	77	\$50.00	81	\$50.00
12/17/2025	23	\$100.00	10	\$50.00	70	\$50.00

\*\* Winnings donated back to the Detachment

Congratulations to the winners. Checks have been sent out.

For 2025 we sold 80 tickets for a total of \$4,000.00. We distributed \$2,950 and \$1,250 (\$200 of that was from donations) went to the HIB Detachment. We hope to sell more tickets in 2026.

***It is also time to start signing up for the 2026 200 Club.***  
***Remember, you can't win unless you buy a ticket!***



## Marine Corps League - Hiram I Bearss Detachment 200 CLUB

The 200 Club is a monthly drawing where a total of \$200 is awarded to three member's numbers that are drawn from the pool of all entrants. The drawing is held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. The drawings start January and will end in December of the same year. There will be three numbers drawn each month, with the 1<sup>st</sup> member's number being awarded \$100.00, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> member's number being awarded \$50.00. After the last number is drawn that month, all three numbers will be returned to the pool to be included in the next month's drawing. ***The last month, December, will be a Grand Finale with the 1<sup>st</sup> number winning 500.00, the 2<sup>nd</sup> number winning \$150.00 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> number winning \$100.00***

\*\*\*\* YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN \*\*\*\*

The cost of membership for the 200 Club is \$50.00 per membership number and only 200 numbers will be sold per year. After purchasing their number, each member will receive a ticket confirming their membership number for the year. ***Remember, that the more tickets you buy, the chances of winning are increased!***

The purpose of the 200 Club is to generate funds to help pay monthly expenses of the HIB Detachment 089, Marine Corps League. If you have any questions, please contact any of HIB Detachment Officers.

**To join the 200 Club, fill out a ticket provided by a member or fill in the information below and send it along with your check (DO NOT MAIL CASH) for \$50.00 per entry, to HIB Det #089, Marine Corps League; Attn: 200 Club, 550 S Audubon Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46219. Make checks payable to: MCL HIB Det #089. We will then send you a ticket stub with your token number on it.**

CG License # 001903

Name:			# of Entries:		
Address:					
City:		State:		Zip+4:	
Phone:		Amount Enclosed:	\$		

\*\*\*\*\*

For HIB use only:

Token #:(s) \_\_\_\_\_

2026

2. Raffle of .45-70 Govt Henry Brass Action Lever Rifle

**Marine Corps League**

**HIRAM I BEARSS DETACHMENT 089**

**Announces the Raffle of a**

**Henry .45-70 Gov't  
Brass Lever Action Rifle**



**Drawing to be held**

**Thursday, August 13, 2026**

**If desired, winner may take the cash option of \$500.00**

**\$20.00 per ticket**

**For more information contact:**

**[info@indymarines.org](mailto:info@indymarines.org)**

**[www.indymarines.org](http://www.indymarines.org)**

CG License # 001903



# HIB COMMUNITY EVENTS

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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Toys for Tots

Thanks to the generous donations from Tots & Paws Committee, Union 98, Union 1111, the Oddities Market participants, as well as the HIB members. We have a wonderful amount of toys to turn in to the Toys for Tots. Our Commandant, Jochen Hardwick was able to deliver the toys to the warehouse for distribution.



### HVAF (Helping Veterans and Families)

We were able to put the hygiene kits together at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. We put together 100 hygiene kits at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to donate to the HVAF (Helping Veterans and Families) Foundation. The kits consist of toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, shampoo, soap, deodorant, band-aids and a compressed reusable towel. Judge Advocate, Connie Hamm, delivered the kits to HVAF on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. HVAF appreciated the donations very much.





## **Scouting America Events**

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### **Scout Troop 9**



Scout Troop 9, based in Irvington, is collecting plastic caps that they hope to turn in and have a picnic table or a bench made for the church where they meet. If you would like to donate plastic caps please bring them to the barracks and put them in the designated container in the main hall. Caps from various bottles are acceptable, including caps from: water bottles, detergent bottles caps, juice bottles, medicine bottles, etc. Help us to help the Scouts of America Troop 9.

Please make sure the caps have been rinsed off.

**Check with friends and family. Let's help the scouts meet their goal.**

# INDY 1500 GUN & BLADE SHOW SIGN UP SHEET

If you can volunteer for any of the time slots below, please contact Sam Heitzman at [jrvic@gmail.com](mailto:jrvic@gmail.com).

The winning ticket for the November gun show drawing was #032461. The winner chose the Mossberg Chain Saw.

## Indy 1500 Gun Shows 2026

January 9, 10, & 11; March 6, 7, & 8; June 12, 13, & 14; September 4, 5, & 6; November 6, 7, & 8

**DATE: January 9-11, 2026**

DATE	9am – 1pm	1pm – 4pm Gun show starts 2pm	4pm – 7pm
<u>Friday, Jan 9</u>  On Fridays the gun show starts at 2pm	Meet at barracks 9am Setup of gun show area 10-1pm		
DATE	9am – 1pm	1pm – 4pm	4pm – 6pm
<u>Saturday, Jan 10</u>			
DATE	9am – 1pm	1pm – 4pm	4pm – 5pm
<u>Sunday, Jan 11</u>  Raffle drawing is at 3pm			Assist in Returning Items to Barracks

## **HIB DETACHMENT - CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2026**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month – HIB Membership Meeting – 6pm Dinner; 7pm Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month – HIB Staff Meeting – 6pm

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January	8 –	HIB Membership Meeting (6pm Dinner; 7pm Meeting)
	9-11	Indy 1500 Gun Show
	22	Staff Meeting
February	12 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	26	Staff Meeting followed by MODD Growl
March	6-8 -	Indy 1500 Gun Show
	12 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	14 -	MCL State Spring Conference
	26	Staff Meeting
April	9 -	HIB Membership meeting
	11	Indy Honor Flight
	23	Staff Meeting followed by MODD Growl
May	14 -	HIB Membership meeting
	28	Staff Meeting
	30 -	Indy Honor Flight
June	11 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	14 -	Flag Day
	12-14 –	Indy 1500 Gun Show
	26	Staff Meeting followed by MODD Growl
July	4 -	Independence Day
	9 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	23	Staff Meeting
August	TBD	HIB Membership Meeting
	10-14 -	MCL National Convention (Indianapolis)
	27	Staff Meeting

## **HIB DETACHMENT - CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2026 (Cont)**

September	4-6	Indy 1500 Gun Show
	10 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	19 -	Leatherneck Open
	22-25 -	Women Marines Association National Convention (Michigan)
	24	Staff Meeting followed by MODD Growl
October	8 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	22	Staff Meeting followed by MODD Growl
November	6-8	Indy 1500 Gun Show
	10 -	Marine Corps 251 <sup>st</sup> Birthday
	12 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	26 -	Thanksgiving Day
December	10 -	HIB Membership Meeting
	25 -	Christmas Day



## Military Order of the Devil Dogs (MODD)



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Greetings all Dogs! This is the new schedule of Growls for the calendar year 2026.

**26 February 2026 - Marine Barracks Indy (after the HIB Staff meeting)**

**23 April 2026 - Marine Barracks Indy (after the HIB Staff meeting)**

**23 July 2026 - Marine Barracks Indy (after the HIB Staff meeting)**

**24 September 2026 - Growl of the Pound - Marine Barracks Indy (after the HIB Staff meeting)**

**MODD Breakfasts - All Dogs Invited**

**Third SATURDAY of each MONTH (some locations TBA)**

- **Saturday 17 January 2026, Golden Corral, 160 South Marlin Dr, Greenwood, IN 46142**
- Saturday 21 February 2026, (make a suggestion)
- Saturday 21 March 2026, Ernie Pyle VFW 1120, 1850 S. East St, Indianapolis, IN 46225
- Saturday 18 April 2026,
- Saturday 16 May 2026,
- Saturday 20 June 2026,
- Saturday 18 July 2026,
- Saturday 15 August 2026,
- Saturday 19 September 2026,
- Saturday 17 October 2026,
- Saturday 21 November 2026,
- Saturday 19 December 2026,

Make sure you are up to date with your dues by checking with the Pound 111 Dog Robber, PDD Connie Hamm.

To become a Paid Life Member of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs, you must attain the rank of Pedigreed Devil Dog (PDD) and already be a Paid Life Member of the Marine Corps League.

Semper Woof!

PDD Lloyd Louks, OFS

Sir Poundkeeper, HIB Pound 111 MODD

Worthy Dog Trainer, Indiana Pack MODD

317-721-1805 Mobile

# Questions and Answers

## Q: Can anyone join the Marine Corps League?

**A:** Anyone can apply to join the Marine Corps League, you do not have to have served in the Marine Corps. If you served in the Marine Corps you will apply as a **Regular** member. If you have not served in the Marine Corps you would apply as an **Associate** member. However, all applications are reviewed by the Board of Trustees of the receiving Detachment. After the Board of Trustees has reviewed them, the applications that are approved by the Board are then brought before the membership for approval or disapproval.

## Q: What is the difference between a Regular and Associate member of the Marine Corps League?

**A: Regular Member** - If you are currently serving or have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, "ON ACTIVE DUTY," for not less than ninety(90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor;\*or have served or are currently serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points; or if you have served or are currently serving as a U.S. Navy FMF Sailor who has earned the FMF Device or FMF Ribbon, you have earned the right to be considered for membership into the Marine Corps League. Regular members of the Marine Corps League

**Associate Member** – An Associate Member is one who has not met the criteria for regular membership but supports the values of the Marine Corps League. Consideration as an Associate Member can be submitted via the Membership Application.

## Q: What is the Auxiliary and who is eligible to become an Auxiliary Member?

**A: Auxiliary Member** – Wives, Widows, Mothers, Grandmothers, Sisters, Daughters, Granddaughters, Stepmothers, Stepsisters, Daughters-in-Law, Aunts, Nieces, Mothers-in-Law, Sisters-in-Law of a (current or former) Marine or a US Navy FMF Corpsman or FMF Navy Chaplain eligible to belong to the Marine Corps League, Inc., and Women Marines. Must be over 16 years of age. <https://nationalmcla.org/>

## Q: I'm a new member of the Marine Corps League. What is expected of me?

**A:** As a new member, there are some expectations. We also want you to let us know if we can do anything for you. We are your Marine brothers and sisters. Let us know if you have any questions or if we can help you in any way. As far as what you can do with the League, we ask that you become active within the Detachment. These are suggestions and **not requirements**. There are several ways you can participate with the Detachment:

1. Wear a red barracks cover to meetings. These are available to purchase in the Ships's Store. Although, recommended but not required, the red barracks cover is a symbol of our unity
2. Recruit new members!
3. **Volunteer for fundraising events, such as the gun shows, Halloween parking lot event, golf outing, or selling snacks or ship's store items at various events. Sell tickets for fundraisers, coordinate an event or assist at an event. There are several ways to help at events. You can also help setup or take down at different events.**
4. **Volunteer to provide a side dish or the main course at a monthly meeting. The Detachment will reimburse up to \$60 for the main course. You must have a receipt to be reimbursed. If you are**



***not providing the main course, we ask that you bring in something to share as a side dish or chips, etc.***

5. Help with setup or cleanup after meetings or for events that the Detachment is hosting
6. When appropriate, consider volunteering for a position within the Detachment.
7. Attend the conferences hosted by the Department of Indiana Marine Corps League. These conferences provide valuable information to League members. They also provide an opportunity to network with others throughout the state and learn methods to make the Detachment a better unit. The national convention provides an opportunity to network throughout the country.

**Q: What are the Membership Fees?**

**A:** Yearly membership fees for the HIB Detachment are \$35.00 a year, payable by August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Renewals are \$30 per year.

As of July 1, 2023, the life membership fees are:

\$1,000 for members 35 and under  
\$800 for members 36-50 years old  
\$600 for members 51-64 years old  
\$400 for members 65-84 years old  
\$100 for members 85 and older

**Most organizations, veteran related, private or public, are primarily served by a small group of volunteers. We would like to see the Marine Corps League be an exception to that rule. Let's show them that Marines help each other! Volunteer!**

***\*\*Remember –  
The Marine Corps did not train us to sit on the sidelines!\*\****

Have a question for us regarding the Marine Corps League or the HIB Detachment? Reach out to [info@indymarines.org](mailto:info@indymarines.org) and we will try to provide an answer.

# Marine Corps League

## Application for Membership



Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Enlistment/Commissioning: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Discharge/Retirement/Separation: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Application--- New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership Type--- Regular ☐ Associate ☐ Dual ☐

Have you ever been convicted of a Felony? YES ☐ NO ☐ If yes is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

I hereby apply for membership in the Hiram I Bearss 089 Detachment, Marine Corps League and enclose \$ 35.00 for one year's membership.

I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, "ON ACTIVE DUTY," for not less than ninety(90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor;\*or have served or am currently serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points; or that I have served or am currently serving as a U.S. Navy FMF Sailor who has earned the FMF Device or FMF Ribbon. If discharged, I am in receipt of a DD Form 214 or a Certificate of Discharge indicating "Honorable Service". ("Honorable Service" will be defined by the last DD Form 214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received). General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. I understand the DD Form 214 may contain information such as military awards, training, and character of service.

### OATH OF MEMBERSHIP-REGULAR/ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

"I, \_\_\_\_\_, In the Presence of Almighty God, do solemnly swear, that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America and the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League. That I take this obligation willingly and in good faith and that I will follow the directions and guidance of elected and appointed officers of the League. That I will participate and support the missions and activities of the Marine Corps League, and that I promise to govern my conduct in such a manner that I will never bring discredit upon myself, Members of the League, or the Marine Corps League, so help me God.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sponsor (Where Applicable)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant's Signature**

Please locate a Detachment using the locator on The Marine Corps League National website. Upon completion submit this form and attach a copy of your last DD-214 (Service 2 or Marine 4)\*, as well as any applicable fees as defined by the Detachment. If you desire to join as a Member At Large, please go to The Marine Corps League National website and apply using the online form.

\*Regular Member applicants only

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½ Page	\$100
Full Page	\$200

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