



The SUNFLOWER "SCUTTLEBUTT"

Official "Mouthpiece" of the Department of Kansas, Marine Corps League
Spring Edition 2025

Editor: Wes Topel, 3331 N. Flat Creek Cir, Wichita Kansas 67205-8703
E-mail: wes.topel@gmail.com

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS 2024-2025

COMMANDANT: Wes Topel

e-mail: wes.topel@gmail.com

SR. VICE COMMANDANT: Bill Koonce

e-mail: billkoonce@gmail.com

JR. VICE COMMANDANT: Joel Wilson

e-mail: wilsonjoel.1@gmail.com

SGT. AT ARMS: Eldon "Doc" Holsey

email: docfmf.70@gmail.com

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Kimberley Mancuso

e-mail: Kimberleymancuso@gmail.com

ADJUTANT / PAYMASTER: Harvey Harris

e-mail: hharris@MCLLeague.org

CHAPLAIN: Bryson Allen

e-mail: OldDD59.69@gmail.com

JR. PAST COMMANDANT: George Waugh

e-mail: gw10502@gmail.com



Commandant Wes Topel

Greeting Kansas MCL and MODD Kansas Pack members,

The Spring edition of the Scuttlebutt will be an abbreviated edition to get some important information out regarding upcoming events and deadlines. We will resume the regular format (officer and detachment reports, good news stories, pictures and Taps) with the Summer edition scheduled for July 2025.

1. Compliance - We are now in FY2025 and our compliance requirements have reset.

Paymasters:

- a. IRS form 990-N for tax year 2024 needs to be filed by May 15, 2025. You can do that now. Please do not wait until the due date on this one because there is a new requirement this year to log into the IRS website through **ID.Me**. If you do not already have an **ID.Me** account you will have to set one up which involves uploading photos of your state

ID and a video conference with a **ID.Me** representative who will verify your identity. You should do this now to avoid issues by waiting until May 15th.

b. Secretary of State filings are due by 6/15/2025 for detachments 682 and 1025. All detachments should update their filings with an information report if your detachment elections prompt a change in the Principal Officer or Governing Body of the Corporation.

c. Report of Officer Installation (ROI) - All detachments will submit to Harvey Harris a copy of your ROI as soon as your officer installations are conducted from your annual detachment elections.

Report of Officer Installation	Secretary of State Report	Next Report Due
105	105	6/15/26
612	612	6/15/26
682	682	6/15/25
730	730	6/15/26
740	740	6/15/26
773	773	6/15/26
1025	1025	6/15/25
Department	Department	6/15/26

Life Member Audit	IRS 990
105	105
612	612
682	682
730	730
740	740
773	773
1025	1025

	Completed - in good standing
	Not Completed - Not Yet Due
	Not Completed - Overdue

2. Deadline for nominations from the detachment level for Department Marine of the Year (MOY) is May 15, 2025. Please read the following and information and follow the procedures outlined in this guidance from the MOY Society.



Department of Kansas

Marine of the Year

Nomination and Award Instructions

The Department of Kansas, Marine Corps League, in June 2013 at the Department Annual Conference, sanctioned the selection of an active member from various Detachments within the Department to the high honor of Marine of the Year. The following comprises the administrative procedures as revised on June 2024 and established "The Society of Marine of the Year, Department of Kansas" hereinafter referred as "The Society".

Membership: "The Society" will be composed of all Marine Corps League members who have been awarded the Department of Kansas Marine of the Year. Only those members who are active or life members in good standing shall be voting members. The Department Commandant shall be an "Ex-Officio" member without a vote. The Department Commandant shall have a vote only if the Society fails to maintain a minimum of 4 active members.

Leadership: "The Society" shall elect/appoint one of its members to the office of Chair of "The Society". In the event the Chair cannot be present at any meeting of "The Society" the senior member of "The Society" present shall be chair at the meeting.

Quorum: "The Society" shall meet once a year before the Department Conference on call of the chair to determine selection, if any, of that year's Marine of the Year. There shall be at least three (3) members present to constitute a quorum of "The Society". This meeting may be in person or electronically at the call of the chair.

Nominations: Nominations for the Marine of the Year shall originate from the Detachment level. The nominee must be an annual or life member in good standing of the Marine Corps League and by extension the Department of Kansas. The award shall be presented to the Marine Corps League member who in the opinion of their Detachment has rendered service and performed deeds above and beyond that expected of a member of the League. Nominations shall contain information that is immediately evident to the reader that the individual enhanced the concepts of citizenship, furthered the aims, ideals of the League or acted in a heroic manner without regard to his or her personal safety. Written affidavits, newspaper articles of personal statements are not required but may be submitted.

Application: No individual member or officer of the Marine Corps League other than the detachment leadership may make a nomination. All nominations must be submitted by the Detachment and signed by the Commandant or Adjutant-Paymaster (or Adjutant if split). Detachments will not be limited as to the number of nominations they may make in any one year. **All nominations will be in writing and shall be forwarded by cover letter to Joe Hughes, "The Society" Chair, no later than the 15th of May of the year in question.** Nominations not in good order or received after the deadline shall be returned to the Detachment with a note from "The Society" Chair. Nominations may be sent by USPS Mail or E-Mail to:

Joe Hughes, 8021 Hall Street, Lenexa KS 66219-1870 or email at joehughes50@gmail.com



3.

The Dover Detail is a non-profit 501-C3 in Florida that provides military uniforms for veterans to be buried in, at no cost to the family except for shipping.

Please check out their website if you know a veteran or family that would be interested or to donate to the cause.

<https://thedoverdetail.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS



The 2025 Department of Kansas Conference will be held on June 6-7, 2025 in Wichita, Kansas.

What: Department of Kansas Conference and MODD Pack Grand Growl

Who: Any and all MCL members (other Departments welcome too), family and friends. Grand Growl is restricted to MODD members and Pup initiates only. No pre-registration required.

When: Friday June 6, 2025 - 1800-2100 - Social at Post 4

Saturday June 7, 2025 - 0900-1130 - MCL Business Meeting

1130-1230 - Lunch at Post 4 - All you eat taco bar (\$10)

1230-UTC - Pack Grand Growl

Where: Thomas Hopkins American Legion Post 4 - 816 North Water St., Wichita, KS 67203

Why: To conduct required annual business, elect new Department and Pack Officers, to build relationships and network better lines of communication between individual members and detachments.

The Friday night social will be hosted by the Air Capitol Detachment. Burger cookout will be provided - donations welcome. Cash bar is available. A cornhole or pool contest may break out too, you never know.

Anyone interested in playing golf together at the Arthur B. Sims Golf Course on Friday afternoon contact Wes Topel at 785-208-0127 or email wes.topel@gmail.com We could look at a tee time of 1400 if we want to play 18 holes or 1600 if we want to play just 9 holes.

Hotel reservations should be made on your own. Below are options I found on Hotels.com for Friday night (June 6th). These are downtown options close to Post 4 based on 2-person occupancy.

Fairfield Inn and Suites

Breakfast Included

\$156 taxes included

Hilton Garden Inn

Breakfast for an additional charge

\$149 taxes included

Hyatt Regency

Breakfast for an additional charge

\$134 taxes included

My personal choice is the Hyatt. It has a very nice parking garage and is right on the riverwalk. It offers a free shuttle to Old Towne (night life) or anywhere in the downtown area.



2025 MCL National Convention and MODD Supreme Growl

HYATT REGENCY DFW AIRPORT

2334 N. International Pkwy, DFW Airport, TX 75261

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/DFWAP/G-MCL5>

Phone # for reservations – 1-800-233-1234

Group code = G-MCL5

Dates: Monday August 11, 2025 to Friday, August 15, 2025

Rates are \$159 inclusive of taxes. Parking is free.



Schedule