



SKUTTLEBUTT

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY**



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FEBRUARY 2025
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 Detachment WEB Site: www.macombmarines.com

Marines & Auxiliary Members:

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be February 6 at 7:30. Join us at the American Legion Post 351, (46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica,) The telephone number to the Post is (586) 731-9833.

**DETACHMENT AND AUXILIARY
BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY**



**Robert Dybowski
Eric Esau
Michael Giffer
Chad Haase
Donald Moeller
Stephen Patercsak
Joan Pfaff**

**Victor Racosky
Catherine Samuel
John Sternicki
Gerald Susko
James Thiede
Gary Titus**

COMMANDANT’S MESSAGE

I just attended the Mid-Winter conference in Bay City for the Department as the representative for the Detachment. The topics of discussion were Licensing, and 1099 tax forms gone over and IRS records.

If we want any changes to Department By-Laws, the changes need to be in by April 1st. There were about 6 resolutions to be brought to the State Legislation and State Senators in the coming year. The first one is increased funding to the veterans service grants, Second is, Pay the Michigan Veterans Coalition, Third, Opposing the Defend the Guard Act, Fourth, Reimbursing County and local property tax exemption for disabled Michigan veterans who are 100 % permanent and total, Fifth, support for cooperation of Federal Agencies and, Lastly, Stop Cash payments to the Taliban. If you wish to read more about this

resolution, get with me and I will share with you my copy of these resolutions.

Do you know of anyone in your family that would like to apply for the scholarship from the Department League Foundation toward college classes? I have a form that needs to be filled out in order to be considered and the form needs to be in no later than May 1st.

There were great fundraising ideas, such as Porcelain Challenge Coins with Detachment meeting info on them and location, to give out like business cards. Comedy shows that we can work with Stanley L Moore detachment in Berkley or American Legion. The idea of working with areas if coordinated, such as 50/50 at Ford Field and however many specific numbers of people we have helping, we could get that percentage of money for aiding.

I have heard in the past the thought of having and celebrating the Marine Corps Birthday with active duty at the balls they have. If we have enough interest to get the ball rolling.

In addition, a reminder about the Zoom info again for your info.

Topic: MCL Monthly Meeting
 Time: Feb 6, 2025 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the First Thursday,

Meeting ID: 713 0496 3710
 Passcode: 034987

Steve August, Commandant

SR VICE REPORT

Are we thinking Spring and warmer weather, or what? At least our days are getting longer and soon it will begin to warm up. Our Marine Corps League and Auxiliary is destined to have a great 2025! I am proud to announce our first event for the year -- "Chili Cookoff" fundraiser on St Patty's Day Monday, March 17. I need your help in participation.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Chili Cookoff 3/17 highlights:

- **Who:** General Public / All are welcome!
- **What:** Marine Corps League "Chili Cookoff" Fundraiser
- **When:** St Patty's Day - Monday, March 17, 2025 @ 6:00PM - 8:00PM Those bringing chili to share and/or be entered in contest need to arrive at 5PM for setup. Need several volunteers to help us clean up after event.
- **Where:** American Legion Post 351 (46146 Cass Avenue, Utica, MI)
- **Why:** Fundraiser - Marine Corps League - Benefiting local Veterans charities.
- **Cost:** \$10/person

I need at least five (5) people to commit to bringing a crock pot of their favorite chili dish and cornbread. I am signed up to bring my famous Jolliff chili. I need at least 5 more to make chili and cornbread to make this fundraiser viable, so please join us and bring your appetite! Please let Nate Jolliff know of your commitment to bring a chili dish and cornbread for our first fundraiser of the new year by no later than Friday, 2/28/2025. Fabulous gifts of unimaginable value will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd chili dishes. 😊 Let's get 100% participation, and have some fun camaraderie!

Lastly, please mark your calendars for our annual Scramble Golf Fundraiser on Saturday, September 6 at 2PM at Bee Tee Golf Course in Macomb. Our MCL Calendar online is up to date and ready for people to register individually, or sponsor a foursome. Last year, we had 47 golfers attend. This year, we are aiming for at least 70 golf participants and I know this MCL team will deliver!

I am committed to making our fundraisers successful and profitable, however, it takes a village and all of us need to support these fundraisers going forward. Thank you!

*Semper Fi,
Nate Jolliff, Sr Vice*

JR VICE REPORT

Our membership drive is ongoing. We need to bring some new members in if we are going to be the number one Detachment in Michigan!

John Myroniuk, Jr Vice



Reminder: There is no February Auxiliary meeting. We will resume our regular meeting schedule at 7:30 pm on Thursday, March 6, 2025.

Just a word of caution though, Michigan weather can be pretty tricky. This is the caveat for March: weather permitting. It seems over the past two years the first week of March has had some pretty significant ice and/or snow storms. We'll just have to keep our fingers crossed that Mother Nature doesn't throw us any curve balls.

Here's an update on the Mid-Winter Conference that was held in Bay City, January 17 and 18. Irene Spooner, Treasurer, represented our Unit and gave a report on the unit's activity. A great deal of interest was generated about our GroupRaise fundraiser at Buddy's. Since it's a fundraiser that requires no cash investment, i.e. the unit doesn't need to buy anything or rent space and there's no time investment required, it's an easy way for the Units to add cash to their coffers. Also, while discussing fundraisers, the Department handed out catalogs for their Rada Cutlery project. We'll have some of these catalogs at our March meeting. Their product line is reasonably priced and they have a nice line of kitchen ware products. The Department receives 40% from each order.

Speaking of fundraisers, a year or so ago we talked about setting up our Unit for the AmazonSmile program where we would receive 0.5% for eligible purchases made through Amazon Prime. This may not make us a ton of money, but every penny counts. Now may be the time to revisit this program and get our Auxiliary on the list of eligible non-profits. Just a thought.

Getting back to the events at the Mid-Winter, in the Auxiliary meeting using Zoom calls in place of physical meeting was again brought up for some of the upcoming events. These are events at the Department level. It seems to have been well received by those in attendance and will save on the cost of participating in these meetings.

Two new awards were presented at our Auxiliary meeting. One was the PNP (Past National President) Virginia F. Johnson Service Award for an individual Unit member doing an outstanding job for veterans and the community as a whole during the year. This award honors Virginia F. Johnson, Past National President known for decades of dedication and service to veterans. The other award was the Star Unit Award recognizing annually the Unit with the highest number of new members. Both awards encourage Unit growth and Unit activism and will be discussed more at our next meeting.

Mention should be made of the key-note speaker at the Mid-Winter evening banquet. The banquet itself was well done, the food and service very good. John Tuohy, Past National Commandant and well known to all of us, gave an interesting account of his upcoming Honor Flight to Washington DC. We've all heard about Honor Flights, but the information he disseminated really caught my attention. These flights, at no-cost to veterans, fly veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam and terminally ill veterans from other wars to Washington DC to see their memorials. Visit <www.midmichiganhonorflight.org> for more information.

Sick and distressed: Maureen Ailor is having surgery on Feb. 7, so keep her in your thoughts and prayers for a quick and full recovery. Don Lyon, husband of Auxiliary President Alice Lyon is in recovery mode from surgery. Auxiliary member Loretta Balderson's son, Ronnie, is recovering from surgery. Also keep Norm and Joan Pfaff in your prayers, too. Nancy Haase is doing better, but is still improving and needs our prayers. Also, safe travels to our Skuttlebutt editor, Elaine Arnold as she goes off on another adventure next month. Keep warm and safe during this typical and cold Michigan winter. More to talk about in next month's Skuttlebutt.



Midwinter conference banquet attendees...Marine Mark Spooner, Auxiliary Treasurer Irene Spooner, Marine and Auxiliary member Christine Tonegatto-Salo, Detachment Commandant Steve August, Marine friend Marie Leonetti, Marine Dave Trevino

Irene Spooner
Treasurer, Macomb County MCLA

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

FEBRUARY IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

6 February 1968: Two reduced Marine battalions, the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines with two companies, and 2d Battalion, 5th Marines with three, recaptured Hue's hospital, jail, and provincial headquarters. It would take three more weeks of intense house to house fighting, and nearly a thousand Marines

killed and wounded, before the imperial city was secured.

15 February 1898: One hundred years ago this date, 28 Marines and 232 seamen lost their lives when the battleship MAINE was mysteriously sunk by an explosion in the harbor of Havana, Cuba. Though no definitive evidence linked the Spanish with the sinking, the cry went up, "Remember the Maine!", and by late April the U.S. and Spain were at war.

24 February 1991: The I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces began a ground assault on Iraqi defenses in the final chapter of Operation Desert Storm. The 1st and 2d Marine Divisions stormed into the teeth of Iraqi defenses while heavily armored allied forces attacked the Iraqi defenses in Iraq from behind. In 100 hours, U.S. and allied forces defeated the Iraqi Army.

28 February 1991: Operation Desert Storm ended when the cease-fire declared by President George Bush went into effect. I Marine Expeditionary Force has a strength of more than 92,000 making Operation Desert Storm the largest Marine Corps operation in history. A total of 24 Marines were killed in action during the Gulf War.

Greg Pawlik, Detachment Historian



**MACOMB COUNTY
DET #154
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
FUNDRAISER
BENEFITING LOCAL
VETERANS**

ST. PATTY'S DAY
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025
6PM-8PM
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

\$10/person for chili dinner which includes delicious award-winning chili, cornbread and pop/water.

Prizes awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place chili favorites

Those bringing chili to share and/or be entered in the contest need to arrive at 5pm for setup.

American Legion Post 351
46146 Cass Ave, Utica

Volunteers needed to help clean after event.
Please contact **Nate Jolliff** at natejolliff@comcast.net or 248-464-3258





**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, MACOMB DETACHMENT
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER SUPPORTING VETERANS**

GOLF 2025 SCRAMBLE

★ HOLE in ONE – CHANCE at \$10,000 on PAR 3 HOLE ★
SEPTEMBER 6, 2025
BEE TEE GOLF COURSE
22871 21 MILE RD., MACOMB, MI

REGISTRATION 1PM
SHOTGUN START 2PM

REGISTRATION:
\$400 PER 4-MAN TEAM
\$100 INDIVIDUAL GOLFER
\$36 DINNER ONLY

RAFFLES-PRIZES
DINNER

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
EVENT \$300
HOLE \$200
CONTRIBUTION \$100

Contact Nate Jolliff for more info:
natejolliff@comcast.net
248-464-3258



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER
DEADLINE AUGUST 23RD



I LOVE YOU
TO MY **CORPS.**



**HAPPY
VALENTINES DAY**



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT 154
GOLF FUNDRAISER FOR MCL CHARITIES**
"Helping Raise Funds for Veterans"

Registration Form

NAME _____
EMAIL _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/ST/ZIP _____
PHONE _____

Bee Tee Golf Course
22871 21 Mile Rd., Macomb, MI
September 6th, 2025
Registration at 13:00
SHOTGUN 18 HOLES 14:00 Start Time

RAFFLES, PRIZES, LUNCH AT TURN, DINNER & DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE

POC's: NATE JOLLIFF; 248-464-3258, natejolliff@comcast.net STEVE AUGUST; 586-823-4454; wildone48038@yahoo.com
Make all checks payable to "Marine Corps League DET 154" with notation in memo for MCL154 Golf Fundraiser
Send all correspondence to: MCL Det 154 c/o 14656 Eastport Dr. Sterling Hgts. MI 48313
NOTE: "24-hour notice on any and all refunds"

HOLE in ONE- Chance at \$10,000.00 on PAR 3 Hole

Event Sponsor	\$300.00	Sponsorship	
Hole Sponsor	\$200.00	Longest Drive	
Contribution	\$100.00	Closest to Pin	
Golfer \$100.00 x 4	\$400.00	Others	
Dinner Only	\$36.00	Dinner Only (No Golf)	

TEAM CAPTAIN - POC/SPONSOR AND TEAM:

NAME(POC) _____ EMAIL _____ Ph# _____

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

The MARINE CORPS LEAGUE is a (501c4) non-profit

MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
 Department of Michigan
 Marine Corps League
 INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS
 Mailing Address:
 14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313-5325

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Junior Vice Commandant	John Myroniuk	(586) 739-1929	Junior Vice President	Maureen Ailor	(810) 310-6081
Judge Advocate	Christine Tonegatto-Salo	(586) 801-0081	Judge Advocate	Nancy Haase	(586) 992-9961
Adjutant/Paymaster	Don Lyon	(586) 925-5010	Chaplain	Nancy Haase	(586) 992-9961
Chaplain	James Dewey	(910) 333-2224	Secretary	Irene Spooner	(586) 466-5708
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Change of Address: Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:

14656 Eastport Drive
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313
 Or email to Macomb.marines@gmail.com

New Address (please print):

Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____