

Spring Department Meeting Oxford Suites ~ 1701 E. Yakima Ave., Yakima, WA 98801



DEPT MINUTESS 6 APRIL 2024

Joint Opening Ceremony: ANNOUNCEMENTS: 1000-1600 Dept./Aux Meeting, 1600-1700 MODD Pack Growl/Flea Scratch 1730- Dinner @ Powerhouse restaurant 1830- Social in mtg rm Camaraderie (some do Poker)

Host Detachment Commandant: Nicholas Meyers-Absent/ SrVice Cmndn't Ed Falter welcomed all.

Recognition of National Officers: VAVS Rep Rex Hopper, Marine for Life Committee member Mark Gorman.

Recognition of Recipients of NW Division Marine of the Year: John Moysiuk, Dennis Dressler, Bonnie & Mark Schildknecht.

DEPARTMENT 2023 MOY Eric C Miner (DECEASED) The charter was draped for all of our fallen this last period.

ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR Lorrie P Gilchrist

RECOGNITION OF RECIPIENTS OF DEPARTMENT MOY: Please stand. 1998 John F. Stofiel, 2004 Dennis Dressler, 2010 Rex Hopper, 2012 Ronald Black Sr., 2015 John L. Moysiuk. 2016 Mark Schildknecht, & Ed Falter; Past Department Commandants: Dennis Dressler, Ed Falter, John Stofiel, & Rex Hopper.

RECOGNITION OF "FIRST TIMERS" TO DEPARTMENT MEETING: Karen Oates Olympic Peninsula Det. 531, CR Johnson Twin Harbor Det. 442, Jim Whiteside Twin Harbors Det. 442, John Brown MM Smith 586, Dickson Lee Columbia River Det. 826, Steve & Sharon Reese Capt. Dan D Bartless Det. 1335.

RECOGNITION OF MCLA AND OFFICERS: President Sena Morland presented her Officers & staff. Past Dept. Presidents, Past National Officers,

Commandant calls for 10 Minute Recess: Presentation of new Department Website: The League, MODD & Auxiliary present. NOTE: Presentation was cut short due to com issues, and it was decided that each detachment member would receive link. [Marine Corps League – Department of Washington \(mclwa.org\)](http://Marine Corps League – Department of Washington (mclwa.org))

Commandant reconvenes business meeting

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: (Adjutant calls)

Comdn't John Moysiuk, SrVice Comdn't Ed Falter. Jr Vice Comdn't LouAnne Harrey, J/A Joel Cartwright, and Jr Past Comdn't George Hilbish II absent. **APPOINTED OFFICERS:** Adj: John Stofiel, Paymaster: Rick Flath, Sgt At Arms: Mark Schildknecht, & Chaplain Dennis Dressler.

CMNDN'T - CALLS FOR ADJUTANT REPORTS –

- **Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes were published and sent via email to all members of the Dept. and our detachments, and no adjustments were received. I will entertain a motion to accept the minutes as previously published. 2nd Dennis Dressler. Carried.
- **Washington Secretary Of State Filing: Internal Revenue Service 990; Paid Life Member (PLM July 2023); Report Of Installation Officers.** All Are Up To Date For 2023 And Receiving Input From The Detachments for 2024.

PAYMASTER/MBRSHP REPORT: Rick Flath –

Account Balances as of 7 April 2024: Checking: \$2,462.18; Savings: \$13,006.44; Include in Saving: Travel Fund: \$0.00; Rock 32 Memorial: \$573.94; Available Savings: \$12,432.50

From October 1, 2023 – March 31. 2024, the WA Department Paymaster has received 142 renewals/new membership from the Detachments in Washington. Paymaster/Reminders:

*D214s are not needed at the National or Department levels (don't send copies). *When sending your transmittals to the Department Paymaster you need to send the original plus two copies. The Department keeps one copy and the original; the other copy goes to National. *New Members adjustment between March 1st to June 30th are: National fees - \$15.00; Department fees - \$2.50. *Paymasters, a reminder that you can email transmittals that have no fees directly WA Department Paymaster, no need to mail them just email them to rflath1@comcast.net *Reminder that each Commandant and Paymaster have access to the database, with the ability to make limited changes to member records. If you need help, please contact me by email at rflath1@comcast.net. PLM Audit: All current! ROI (Report of Officer Installation): As a reminder please be sure to send the Department Adjutant and Paymaster your updated ROI form for 2024. 2024 SOS and IRS filling for 2023 please be sure to complete them and notify Dept. Adjutant. Rex Hopper moved for the acceptance of the Paymasters Report. 2nd Mark Gorman, Carried.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT: (SICK AND/ OR IN DISTRESS): Chaplain Dennis Dressler –

Since Fall Staff Meeting I have answered questions from Detachments. Additionally, I have served as Chaplain at military services. I have volunteered at Mann-Grandstaff VAMC. I have passed on information from the VA to my detachment. On 15 April as a representative of both my detachment and the Department I attended the Celebration of Life for Marine Al Olsen of the Yakima-Kittitas Detachment. Upon receiving NOD's from the detachments I have processed and sent them to the MCL National Chaplain and to JD Foster at the National Office. members who have been reported as having passed away include: Thomas (Doc) HADDOX, Jerry MULLAN, Gerald JOHNSON, Roy WILSON, & Victor CERLLAR Capt. Daniel B Bartles Det.; Orville (Vern) KLUMP & Eric GAMBLE Mt St Helens Det.; Charles PRINGLE Pierce County Det.; Eric RATHKE, James SIMMS, & Harold RAEDEL Olympia Det.; Raymond CHAPMAN Olympic Peninsula Det.; Henery LEE Pierce County Det.; Norman SANBORN, David SEVERANCE George GALLOWAY, Mort SULLIVAN, & Larry McDANIELs Melvin M Smith Det.; John HUDSON Columbia River Det.; Eric MINER Mt Olympus Det.; Almart (Al) OLSEN & John SMITH Yakima-Kittias Det. I have 2 that have passed of which I have not received a NOD: John Britcher – Cpl Joseph Bier Det. 1119, & Kenneth Allen -Mt Olympus 897. Added Losses during report: Chris Skinner – Olympic Peninsula Det. 531. Commandant called for a moment of silence for our deceased members.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DEPARTMENT: (Commandant/Adjutant) None

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

- **Commandant John Moysiuk** – Oorah Marines! As we move into 2024 there have been several items of interest within the Department. I continue to ask for your assistance in providing which is how your Detachments are doing. This is the time to brag about what you all are doing or to ask for assistance. In either case, there is a specific tool which I believe we all can use which would greatly assist all of us and that is the new Department Website with sub-domains for each Detachment. This subject will be discussed by our Paymaster. This tool will allow better information flow not only from the Department Staff to membership, but from each Detachment Staff to its membership right back up to the Department Staff. Information such as Toys for Tots, Eagle Scout Awards, Honors/Color Guards/Burial Details, Assisting Transitioning Military Families, Community Service Hours by your membership, VAAC, Young Marines, Parades, Veteran Day Services, Fund Raising Activities, and Community Outreach. I know this is not the complete list but it sure does help me to brag about you all and what you accomplish in our communities. This goes the same for whomever is the next Department Commandant and Staff as well. All of the following should have a report for the Spring, Convention and Fall gatherings for the Department coming from the respective Detachment Commandant's. This will especially be needed for our convention in which the new Department Commandant will need your input to forward to the new National Vice Commandant (NVC) Northwest Division Michael Flynn. He will need this information for his report to National for the August National Convention. Thank you for all you do,
- **Sr Vice Commandant Ed Falter – No digital report**
- **Jr Vice Commandant LouAnne Harry – No digital report.** At the mid-winter conference one of the biggest concerns presented was why we could not have three members with access to the Nat'l Database. It was decided that we would only have two members of the detachments with access the Det. Commandant and the Det. Paymaster.
- **Judge Advocate Joel Cartwright** – As of this date, I have received no new Chapter 9 Grievances within the Department. I have had one official request for ruling and I have made it. It will be attached to this report. There have been three new rulings from the National Judge Advocate David Porter on the National Website. They are: (1) Ruling on Veterans who are applying for membership while they are currently in the system of the Veterans Treatment Court; (2) Ruling for applying for Associate Membership who claim to be "Veterans" must show their most recent DD-214 and they must have served honorably; (3) Ruling on clarification with Detachment meetings being held in person or via Zoom. If you would like to read these Rulings, please visit the National Library, and log in to the Member Library. As always, to all Detachment Commandant's and Judge Advocates, I suggest you review your Detachment Bylaws and Procedures yearly if possible but at least every two years. As new Marines take on leadership roles this may help in the smooth transition. Always go out of your way to pass on information, that communication is vital to the success of the Detachment, Department, and the whole Marine Corps League. It has been my pleasure to serve these past two years as the Judge Advocate of the Department of Washington. I hope to continue to receive support as I run for Junior Vice Commandant this year.(SEE ATTACHMENT 3)
- **Jr Past Commandant George Hilbish II** – Ed Falter declined to move up as Dept. Commandant and have asked LouAnne Harrey to serve as our Commandant, Joel Cartwright was asked to serve as our SrVice Commandant, If they accept the nominations this will leave the JrVice Commandant and Judge Advocate positions open for nominations from the floor. Cmndn't John Moysiuk – I spoke with all concerned and Ed would remain as SrVice, LouAnne would move up to Commandant and Joel would move to JrVice leaving J/A position open. If you are interested in holding a leadership position in the Department, by all means do so. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the Dept. Convention.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES/ADVISORY COUNCILS:

- **CONVENTION BIDS: Commandant John Moysiuk** – The Convention will be held in Yakima 6-8 June at the Red Lion, room rate will be #107.00; We will have a hospitality/Auction room with snacks and drinks, alcohol will be permitted. Breakfast is \$10.00 per person Saturday luncheon will be a Mexican Fiesta @\$25.00 per person.
- **ROCK 32 CEREMONY: Mark Gorman – No digital report** – Coins will be ordered shortly, and we have a barbeque grill reserved, Marines from Tacoma and Bangor will be coming out. We are not doing a Memorial Service anymore.
- **MARINE FOR LIFE: Mark Gorman – No digital report**
- **VETERANS LEGISLATIVE COALITION:** Cmndn't John Moysiuk is currently vacant I will be throwing my hat into the ring to fill that position. I am making a motion to pay the \$50. Member fee for last year and the upcoming year, multiple seconds to the motion without names. SrVice LouAnne Harrey shared that the legislature a couple of bills came up. 1. Washington State will now have an Indian Veterans Service Officer. 2. Physicians Assistance Compact. (SEE VETERANS BILLS ATTACHMENT 1) NOTE: NO VOTE TAKEN ON THE MOTION AND 2ND TO PAY THE VLC MBRSHIP FEE.
- **AMERICANISM: Bonnie Holden – Absent** Americanism Award is in the <https://www.mclnational.org> Website in the Library. The following link is information on completing the Americanism Award criteria. Americanism-Award-Criteria-and-Format_2023.pdf (mcleaguelibrary.org) I was not notified of any Americanism books that were submitted at Oklahoma City Ok National Convention in 2023. The next entries will be at the National Convention in 2024 in Palm Spring Ca. This is a history of what your Detachments have done over the year. Now is the time to start collecting pictures of events as well as writing up so that you can prepare for the Americanism Award for next year. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. Awards were given out at the Mid-Winter Conference for 2023. I will be happy to take any books ready for the National Convention and they can be given to me at the Department of Washington Convention in June 2024.
- **EAGLE SCOUTS: Bonnie Holden** – Good Citizenship Award April 1, 2024. The Marine Corps League National Headquarters website has the form for the Eagle Scout to complete that you can print. I have heard from 3 Detachments on the Eagle Scout Awards to date. Total Eagle Scout Citizenship Awards presented were 9. This includes 2 that National Contacted me about to present at an Award Ceremony in Ritzville WA which were presented on March 10, 2024. There are embossed awards that can be purchased at the Semper Fi store for this purpose. I would like each detachment to contact me on regular intervals which are listed for this purpose. Even if you have a negative report please turn that in so that I know that I have reports from all detachments. I have yet to hear from many detachments whether they are participating in the Eagle Scout Program. If you do not participate in the Eagle Scout Award Program please let me know and I will mark you down showing I will not receive a response. Period of July 1 each year to December each year should be reported by January 15 Period January 1 each year to June 30 each year should be reported by July 15. If it is easier for you to have a monthly list to send every 6 months, I can then tally each of the detachments for the period that I need to report. My email information, phone number and address are listed below. You can call me if you have questions. But a written report can either be mailed or emailed and is needed. My address, email, and phone number at the end of this report.. Semper Fi Bonnie Holden 360-339-3446 or bonnie.holden@hotmail.com 17823 Gilbert St SE Tenino WA 98589
- **WEB SERGEANT: Bill Hauser – Absent.** The Department website can be found at: <https://www.mcldeptwa.org/> In the period October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, we had 401 Site sessions, 329 Unique Visitors with 991 page views. Although the Site sessions are down 12%, the Unique Visitors are up 4% for the period. It is vital to get and keep viewers that we constantly keep current information on the website showing what our members are doing around the state. It doesn't

matter what the event is. Take a couple photos at a detachment meeting or any other time members get together and email them to me. If your Detachment has something going on and you have photos. Send them to me and I'll post them on the website. Any activities are welcome. Parades, community service, detachment meetings or dinners. On the Department Website you can find information about Current Department Officers and their email addresses, Detachment meeting times, locations, and Officers. Also, a calendar of Upcoming events is available. Information is available on Devil Dogs, the Pack Officers, Pounds, and Pound Officers. Standing Committees, Recruitment and Retention, Fleas, and Auxiliary information is also available. Interesting facts about the Department Website: *Your most popular traffic source is Google. *The last page people often visit before leaving is /devil-dogs. *The most popular page visitors navigate to is the /leadership page. *People spend more time on your /detachments page than other pages.

- **GOVERNORS VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Ron Black - Brief:** The GVAC has been busy, we have set all four of our Town Hall meetings the first is Wednesday 1 May 2024 Women Veterans Advisory committee (WVC) meeting at 0830-0930 followed by our Town Hall 1000-1230 at the Misteqwa Casino Hotel in Chewleah. WA. (49 miles N of Spokane on Hwy 395). The second is at the Elks Lodge 1937 0830-0930 WVC followed by our Town Hall 1000-1230 on Wednesday 26 June 2025 Long Beach, WA
Digital report: 1. General Activity of the VAAC from Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Olympia WA. Headquarters-Office for period January – March 2024 The VAAC continues to work hard in support of veterans, veterans families, Active, Reserve Military/Guard to assist them with a number of State level support efforts and working closely with the Veterans Administration Medical Facilities at state VA hospitals, Outpatient Clinics regarding the care provided and earned. Veterans Town Hall Meetings are still a major portion of the VAAC team emphasis and purpose. 2. Working within Communities and With Other Agencies. The VAAC works closely with the WDVA and community partners regarding veteran homelessness/ Housing , substance addiction, suicide. Many county health departments and community support organizations share their surveys and that is information worth knowing. The VAAC works with Community Veteran Service Officers and County Veterans Advisory Committees, what works what is needed. 3. VAAC Veteran Town Hall Meetings a priority for the VAAC, Veterans Town Hall Meetings being scheduled since January, (2) Western WA. (2) Eastern WA. Last year 2023 and again in 2024 , VAAC Chairman and Dept of WA. MCL Ron Black Sr. has committed to travel to and attend each of the 4 Veteran town halls across WA. State, 1st Being Stevens County, 2nd Being Long Beach WA, 3rd and 4th being scheduled. The first Eastern WA Location: Currently the VAAC Veterans Town Hall Committee team for East WA. locations are working to schedule Veteran Town Halls the first scheduled Eastern WA. Area Tentative in Stevens County WA. Date. TBD Time, location is still being worked out at the time this report was being prepared SW WA. Location: The first Western WA. Location has been secured and final preparations are in the works to officially announce the Veterans Town Hall to be held, VAAC Chair Ron Black is lead person for that Town Hall. Location: BPOE Elks Lodge, Long Beach WA. Date: June 26th, 2024, Time: WVAC 09:00 -10:00 / VAAC 10:00 - 12:00 2 other locations have been selected but it is too early to announce them as they will be formalized in the winter months, but the teams are already working on the location facility and making contacts. 4. Other VAAC Information from Dept. of WA. Marine Corps League Representative, Ron Black Sr. Chairman of Governors Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee. VAAC Two New Veterans Connect Busses Go Into Service. For the past two years the Pacific Transit System – Pacific County WA. Transit General Manager Michael Wagner with his assistant Patty Gray has been working continually on Manager Michael Wagner's ten year old vision of putting into operation the first of its kind a publicly funded Veterans Medical Appointments Transport Bus for veterans in little served rural Pacific County WA. Ron Black Sr. MCL Twin Harbors Detachment 442, Commandant & VAAC Chairman of the Dept. of WA. The Marine Corps League has silently known of this and has supported it from its earliest planning.

On January 2nd VAAC Chairman Ron Black Sr. and WA. Department of Veterans Affairs Director, David Puentes Jr. along with several elected State and Local Elected officials were asked to speak at and participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony in Raymond, WA. to place officially in service the first of two "Veterans Connect" transport Buses, which will transport VA Medical approved Veterans far North as Tacoma WA. and as far South as Camp Rilea in Warrington Oregon transporting veterans and a support guest to their VA approved medical appointments at no cost to the veteran. In March, VAAC Chairman and Dept. of WA. MCL Representative Ron Black Sr. was contacted and asked by the Pacific Transit General Administrator to attend and speak alongside Elected Officials and Representatives from WA. State and Patty Murray's Office in Long Beach WA. where bus number two was officially dedicated and placed into service. Note: This is not a DAV Transport or other Veteran Organization Bus or vehicle transport for medical appointment system, The Pacific Transit "Veterans Connect" buses are unique anywhere and are currently Funded on a two year trial, the busses are operated by full and on call paid professional bus drivers all Pacific Transit Employees, The busses are currently in operation Monday – Friday by appointment/availability except holidays. Many Veterans schedule the buses to transport them to their VA appointment, currently there is one veteran who is using the service to attend their scheduled VA approved appointment for Kidney Dialysis 3 days a week which is a couple hours away from their home address, his ability to get to and from these life needed treatments is most difficult if not impossible as he lives alone. The Veterans Connect Bus has been a Godsend for veterans and families who cope with major Chronic Service Connected illnesses and injuries. The transit is looking at the feasibility and possible funding for one or two smaller van size wheelchair accessible vehicles for this purpose like Dialysis, Chemo Treatments, etc. as to free up the two larger 16 passenger buses with room for 3 wheel chairs. The buses are putting on a lot of miles and many hours sometimes being on the road from 06:00 until 17:00, it is quite an undertaking for a new bus program like this but somehow the transit administrator, his assistant Patty Gray, the Transit scheduling staff, and dedicated drivers are making it happen without an issue. Just as important, as the word gets out, more and more Veterans of Pacific County are scheduling and using the service. The Pacific Transit Administrator is looking at possible ways if workable and budget friendly to connect with transit buses in neighboring counties, but this is just a thought in the possibilities of how far this type of system may grow in WA. and possibly in the nation someday, THAT'S MY HOPE! all starting in one man's vision to help veterans and families.

5. National Vietnam War Veterans Day and Washington State Welcome home Vietnam Veterans Day observance Ceremony As the VAAC Representative for the Department of Washington Marine Corps League and the Chairman of the Governors Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee, Ron Black Sr. was asked in February to be the official Emcee and also provide the Invocation and Benediction for this year's Vietnam Veterans Day Observance held on Saturday March 30th at the WA. Vietnam Memorial located on the State Capital grounds in Olympia, WA. Numerous speakers " See Agenda List of speakers " Honored Vietnam Veterans and supporting community were in attendance for the 1.5 hour Ceremony to Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans and to thank the wives and their children present. Veterans from all branches of the service from the four corners of WA. from small towns to major WA. Cities were honored on this day for their selfless service and injuries suffered. Sons and Daughters came to be the representative for their fallen father or those who died post-Vietnam Service from War Related Injury or Illness. The day proved to be emotional for many veterans and for the wives who became widows far too soon in life. The important Welcome Home - Job Well done was much overdue but was well received by all Vietnam Veterans who came to participate. Our veterans from the more recent war also came to support those who were drafted or volunteered; They came to shake the hands of these now aging warriors, all serving with honor before them. * Vietnam Veterans and their Spouse received a beautiful 50 year anniversary pin which was pinned to their collar as a way of saying Vietnam Veteran, Welcome Home for the spouse, Thank You

for your supporting your veteran. **NOTE:** The Vietnam Veteran Day Observance will be held about the same time next year, please plan on attending if you can, we could have used some MCL "Marine Veterans" from any war period in attendance. The Navy and Army showed up as the most represented in support the Vietnam Veterans It felt good to see many wearing the Vietnam Era Solid drab Green Utility Uniform and not the Cammie's.

- **MARINE/ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR – Ron Black /Mark Schildknecht – No digital report**
The MOY Society will meet following the Dept. meeting to select our Dept. MOY and AOY.
- **TOYS FOR TOTS: LouAnne Harrey – No digital report** All of the NW Division Det. are on the back page of the agenda **(See Attachment 2)**
- **AWARDS: John Stofiel** – I Have sent for nominations from all Dept Officers, appointed positions, Detachment Commandants, Adjutants & Paymasters. No responses yet.

REPORT OF DETACHMENT COMMANDANTS:

- **PUGET SOUND DET. #336: Mark Gorman** – Membership – In is Accurate and not up-to-date roster is getting cleaned up. Marine Corps Birthday 2024 – Was held at Renton Tech along with the Marine Support Group and Seattle young Marines had 112 Attend. Toys for Tots - Our 2024 annual program resulted in the Distribution of over 61,687 toys Children Supported 51,236 in conjunction CLB 23 and Red Cross Pistol & Rifle Competition – No competition was held is spring has just begun. Marine Rose Program – Our program has stalled out but has a few events coming up on the calendar Honor Guard – We are proud of our members, who volunteer monthly for the Leatherneck Honor Guard at Tahoma National Cemetery. Draped Charter – None from out detachment. Special Announcements – Special activities accomplished included a successful Strategic Planning Session held in January 2024 was resulted in The Marine Support Group and the Marine MC combined efforts going forward we have 6 monthly events scheduled so far. Appointed Officers: Are actively managing a variety of functions including Public Affairs, Legislative, Fallen Marine, Eagle Scout, Rose, Golf Tournament, Marine for Life, Web Sgt, Quartermaster and Historian. Marine For Life: Training in June 3rd – 7th at Miramar Boy Scout: Have not received any new Eagle Scouts
- **TRI-CITIES DET. #337: Sean Edler – No digital report**
- **TWIN HARBORS DET. #442: Ron Black** – Report April 6, 2024, Twin Harbors Detachment 442 is coming out from winter hibernation, to work on our summer 2024 Detachment agenda. Twin Harbors 442 continues to meet with regular and associate members one day per month at the 40et8 club Aberdeen WA. Unless by request of members meet for a lunch meeting in Raymond, WA. For Recruitment and visual PR purpose, the detachment sometimes alternates our meeting location for the purpose of having a presence in towns where our members reside, Ocean Shores, Hoquiam, Elma, Montesano, Westport, Grayland, Napavine, Naselle South Bend WA, and other locations but the majority of detachment meetings are held in Aberdeen, WA. 40et8 Twin Harbors Detachment members have also been active individually representing the MCL in their towns Our members have since last report supported a loggers play day, assisted with local food banks, senior food, and activity centers, with community church outreach programs in Grays Harbor and Pacific County representing the MCL. We are preparing for Memorial Day participating in Grays Harbor and Pacific County. We had quite a successful Toys-for-Tots program collecting and distributing Toys in Grays Harbor and Pacific County with the last report did not include all the money donations received, Which was turned over to the Toys for Tots coordinators, Olympia. A framed Certificates of Appreciation and Thanks has already been or soon will be presented to these contributing Businesses, Organizations and a couple individuals who help to make The Twin Harbors a better place at Christmas. TOYS FOR TOTS 2023: Helpers-- Robert Cameron, Mel Bennett, Barbara Bennett, Ron Black, Jim Daly, Jim, and Shawna Whiteside, & Betty Restau-- Grandson Brando Gibson TOYS ---DONATIONS Hoquiam Loggers Playday \$500.00; Walmart Placement for boxes; 40 & 8 \$2,000 Plus toys; Calvary Lutheran Church Toys; Daryl Druzianich \$1,000; THANK YOU

CERTIFICATES: Carolyn's Embroidery, & Barg Restaurant. Membership : We have been asked by two Marine Veterans to join Twin Harbors Det. 442, they have applications, and our recruitment team members are keeping in contact with them. Losses: We have fortunately not lost any Detachment members, I would like to let the Dept. know that Marine Ron Russell of Twin Harbors Detachment 442 lost his wife "Marion", to cancer on January 30th, 2024, they had been together 53 years. Marine Ron Russell is one of our last remaining Twin Harbors Det. 442 Charter members, Marion came along with husband Ron to detachment meetings setting outside

- **OLYMPIA DET. #482: Billy Smith** – Olympia Detachment held its annual elections and has new file of officers. Currently working on addressing the update filings for EIN, UBC, and PLM report. Olympia Detachment participated in the Tumwater 4th of July Parade with our newly restored parade float (War Wagon) restored as part of an Eagle Scout Project. The local boy scout troop assisted in distributing American Flags to parade goers while some Marines rode on the float. Over 4,000 flags were distributed along the parade route with the detachment in the lead. The Detachment is deeply involved with Toys for Tots and will be for the foreseeable future. The Detachment just completed and voted to accept the updated By-Laws and is waiting for the Department Judge Advocate to sign off as approved. Department Commandant currently has those in his possession. I am unable to attend the Department Spring Staff Conference due to the fact that I will be out of the country. The Detachment continues to work closely with the local Boy Scouts troop in becoming a Chartered Organization of Olympic District 11 Pacific Harbors Council Boy Scouts of America 612. Two Eagle Scouts have been recognized. Our detachment does have monthly meeting held in the VFW Hall on Martin Way the second Saturday of each month kicking off at 1000 with breakfast. To help boost our numbers and to bring the Detachment closer, I have begun a Family dinner night once a month. After 3 months I would consider the dinners an early success. I am working on a new place for our meetings. One of the biggest complaints I have received about why people are not coming to muster is the breakfast selection and quality.
- **PIERCE COUNTY DET. #504: Mike Edwards** – We had a productive August 2023 through March 2024, with some of the following activities and functions that took place. 1.) The Detachment on average had between eight and ten members that attended our monthly meetings. 2.) The Detachment has sixty Life members, eight annual members and presently two delinquent members. 3.) Our Detachment moved our meetings from the Amvets Post 1 in Tacoma to the Puyallup Valley VFW Post 2224 in Puyallup effective January 1, 2024. 4.) The Detachment had two members that passed away during this period as well. Three Members attended the funeral for one of the members that was buried at the Tahoma Veteran's Cemetery in Kent. 5.) During this period, the Detachment has gotten two new members and has several that are considering joining the MCL, which hopefully they will consider doing as they are younger Marines. 6.) Our Detachment presently has six members that reported sickness and distress, four of which reported having cancer, one is in a Veterans Home, and one is in an Adult Care Home (this is an associate member). 7.) Five of our members attended the Rock Ceremony in Enumclaw on August 26, 2023. 8.) Five members attended the Fall Staff Conference in Yakima on September 9, 2023. 9.) The Detachment held its annual Marine Corps Birthday celebration on November 10, at Dave's of Milton in Milton WA., where the members, spouses and guests that attended had a great time. We held our 2023 raffle ticket fundraiser drawing at this time drawing the four winners. We were all surprised as we were winding the birthday celebrations down, our waitress told us that there was an anonymous woman Marine that paid for everyone's dinner. 10.) The Detachment had three members that attended the 6th Angelico Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (Reserve) Marine Corps Birthday Ball held in Bellevue WA. 11.) In the months of November and December several of our members were busy volunteering with the Pierce County Toys for Tots 2023 Campaign Program. The Toys for Tots Campaign distributed 52,361 toys, 6,059 games and 8,125 stocking stuffers to 50,283 children throughout Pierce County. 12.) Two members visited with two of our members that are in a Veterans Home and an Adult Care Home

prior to Christmas. 13.) Four members visited in March with one of our members who is 88 years old, a request by his daughter to see if some Marine camaraderie could cheer him up, he had lost his wife and brother last year and recently fell and broke his hip and is unable get around very well. 14.) The Detachment publishes a monthly newsletter that is sent out at the beginning of each month regarding Marine, Marine Corps League, Detachment, and other veterans' information. 15.) The Detachment as well has a Facebook page and presently does not have a Web Page

- **OLYMPIC PENINSULA DET. #531: Ted Streete** – Period: October 2023 through March 2024
October 2023: *Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on October 4, 2023, at VFW Post 2669 in Port Orchard, WA. *The Leatherneck Honor Guard, comprised of Marines from Detachments 531 and 336, performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. *The Detachment 531 Monthly Breakfast occurred on October 19, 2023, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA. *The first round of nominations for the 2024 slate of elected officers was completed. November 2023 *On November 1, 2023, volunteer Detachment 531 Marines started distributing Toys for Tots donation boxes in Kitsap and Mason Counties. *The second round of nominations for the 2024 slate of elected officers was completed. *Since all nominated officers are running for election unopposed, they are elected for CY 2024. *The appointed officers for CY 2024. *Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on November 1, 2023, at VFW Post 2669 in Port Orchard, WA. The slate of Detachment Officers for CY 2024 was elected at this meeting. *Detachment 531 Marines joined Marines from Mount Olympus Detachment 897 for a joint celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday on November 10, 2023, at the Seven Cedars Casino in Sequim, WA to celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday at the Azteca Restaurant in Silverdale, WA. *Detachment 531 Marines manned a booth at the Kitsap County Veterans Day Celebration at the at the Kitsap Sun Pavilion on Veterans Day, November 11, 2023. *The Leatherneck Honor Guard, comprised of Marines from Detachments 531 and 336, performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. *Detachment 531 Monthly Breakfast occurred on November 16, 2023, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA. *Detachment 531 Marines participated in many volunteer activities on behalf of the Toys for Tots Campaigns for Kitsap and Mason Counties. December 2023 *Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on December 6, 2023, at President's Hall, Kitsap County Fairgrounds in Bremerton, WA. Detachment Officers were sworn in at this meeting. *Detachment 531 Marines were engaged in picking up Toys for Tots donations throughout Kitsap and Mason Counties. They also participated in many volunteer activities on behalf of the Toys for Tots Campaigns. *Detachment 531 Marines participated in Toys for Tots giveaway on December 16, 2023, in Kitsap and Mason Counties. *The Leatherneck Honor Guard, comprised of Marines from Detachments 531 and 336, performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. *Detachment 531 Monthly Breakfast occurred on December 21, 2023, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA. January 2024 *Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on January 3, 2024, at VFW Post 2669 in Port Orchard, WA. *The Leatherneck Honor Guard, comprised of Marines from Detachments 531 and 336, performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. *The Detachment 531 Monthly Breakfast occurred on January 18, 2024, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA. February 2024 *Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on February 7, 2024, at VFW Post 2669 in Port Orchard, WA. *The Leatherneck Honor Guard, comprised of Marines from Detachments 531 and 336, performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. *Detachment 531 provided Honor Guard Services for Detachment member Chris Skinner, on February 24, 2024, in Belfair, at Twin Firs Cemetery. *Detachment 531 Monthly Breakfast for February 22, 2024, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA was cancelled due to inclement weather. *Detachment 531 Officers met with SgtMajor Kevin Fontenot at the Bremerton Family Pancake House, to discuss how we can bridge the gap and continue to build relations with MCSF BN Bangor. *The Detachment 531 Annual Report for 2024 was filed with the Washington State Secretary of State's Office on February 10, 2024, March 2024 *Detachment 531's

monthly Business Meeting was conducted on March 6, 2024, at VFW Post 2669 in Port Orchard, WA. *The Leatherneck Honor Guard performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. Eagle Scouts: Two new Eagles Scouts were recruited: Andrew Title and Sam Bonsell. Kitsap County Toys for Tots Campaign: *3,356 children were served on December 16, 2023. *21,142 toys were distributed, with each child receiving six toys. *21,435 toys were collected during this year's toy drive. Mason County Toys for Tots Campaign: *5,561 children were served on December 16, 2023. *16,683 toys were distributed, with each child receiving three toys. *11,121 toys were collected during this year's toy drive.

- **MELVIN M SMITH DET. #586: John Brown** – The application for charter on this detachment was signed in March 1985. While that may not seem like a long time ago, it is 39 years by my reckoning. This is a significant fact as we review the status of the detachment now. When I was elected in May 2023 I inherited a detachment with no records other than a check register for a few years, no carry over supplies/uniform items, very little interest in members holding offices, no budget, and a small bank account. I have my theories on how we were led to this situation. For sure we have many red flags and many things that need to be done. It has been a very difficult year in which 2 former members, who had been our long term “deep state”, by the grace of God, took themselves out of detachment membership thru their own actions. In that process we lost our website as well and record of minutes. These people had access to our roster because of past duties and did not destroy or turn in these records. Numerous unauthorized emails and contacts were made to our members against the duly elected officers. While much of this was ignored it was hard for people to want to spend their valuable time where so much “drama” was in progress during the last 12 months. This even started before I was elected. Much of these communications were meant to hurt MMS, MCL, and some of our personal reputations all thru the vet community in Spokane. We did seek counsel from the Department and higher levels of the MCL on these issues. Despite all the drama of the last year, the membership has risen to the challenge and voted against a revenge detachment proposal that was to be started 61 miles away from MMS, in violation of National written procedures. In addition, the following took place. 1. We had to re-establish our relationship and usage of the VFW where we meet. 2. We are also seeing more members step up on projects such as Toys for Tots; fund raising, which exceeded \$30k for Spokane T4T; & 2 WM's took over distribution without any written turn over plan, serving more families and kids than the prior year. 3. We have for the first time ever, full visibility on T4T funds and how they are spent in Spokane. 4. We continued the gun shows raffle even with no more gun shows in Spokane area using new venues. 5. We did a sword raffle to encourage members to come back to meetings. 6. Our Honor Guard detail is very active, and we often field 5 to 7 members on a typical event. 7. We are updating our bylaws and putting in place a budget process. 8. We started the process of an inventory/quartermaster effort and need to repair and rekey our various containers. 9. I am putting our first written records into the detachment file cabinet to reflect our activities on MOY, officer elections, bids, contracts, minutes, JA audit, bylaws, which has happened during my time as Commandant so the follow-on officers can see what was done and why. 10. In January we had a board of trustee planning meeting. The goal is to make this detachment membership run and be responsible for the detachment. We have nothing to hide, and we are not hiding what decisions we have made. I do have a vision for the future. Some smart people once said a vision leads to purpose. And a Purpose leads to actions. I will continue to encourage members to step up and make it happen and to expand on what has been done in the last year.
- **COLUMBIA RIVER DET. #826: Pete Thornton** – We meet on the 3rd Friday of each month for dinner prior to attending business meetings. We are moving to have a guest Speakers/movie night quarterly, on our meeting nights. *Our current Membership is 73 Members on the rolls 3 Unpaid, 20 members paid and 50 Life Members. We currently have an average of between 8-12 members at our meetings each month. *We are represented with several Veterans support organizations within our AOR: *Clark

County Veterans Advisory Board, *Marine Corps Coordinating Council, *Community Military Appreciation Committee, *Young Marine Program going strong..* Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services: Rex Hopper – We had a change of leadership. Rex spoke with our Nat'l SrVice Commandant TJ Morgan about no National Representative at the National level. TJ responded, sent the current National Chaplain Howard Schaefer, and said he would be our National VAVS Representative. Rex emailed the Nat'l Chaplain and is awaiting his response. This seems not so important but in order to have a Rep or Deputy Rep at the VA Hospital the volunteer needs to be certified by National. We still have four golf carts for supporting Veterans in getting to their appointments from the various parking lots at the VA Hospital-Vancouver. *Our Columbia River Auxiliary unit 398 currently has three members keeping the unit afloat and looking for new members to come on board. *Our YM Program is strong and continues to grow in strength and positive Community interaction. *We currently do not have any of our members planning to attend the National Convention in August. Future: April, we will be holding elections for the coming year, It is expected that the current Officers will be serving for another year. *May will be our annual Installation dinner. We will be participating in the Memorial Day program at Ft. Vancouver. *Our Sr Vice Commandant Toby Clairmont will report on our current action with the 2025 convention. OCTOBER: We had 4 members present at the Dept. meeting in October. Our YM program celebrated their 21st Anniversary and going strong in our community. Our Rep, Toby Clairmont saw the Toys for Tots program kicked off with several of our members volunteering to bring support to community businesses who have opted to be a donation site. The Lewis & Clark Pound, WA Pack, MODD met for Kibbles n Bits and growl NOVEMBER: On the 10th at the RS Portland Birthday Ball our Vancouver 5 Marine Recruiters were selected as the Recruiting Substation of the Year during the celebration of our Corp Birthday. Excellent Birthday celebration. 7th 1000-1400 we set up a veterans support/recruiting table at Clark College Job Fair at Gaiser Hall handed out information on the League, no takers. 10th 0900-1200 248th Marine Corps Birthday Brunch at local bar, attendance exceeded previous year. Followed with the RS Portland Birthday Ball our Vancouver Our five Marine Recruiters were selected as the Recruiting Substation of the Year during the celebration of our Corp Birthday. Excellent Birthday celebration. 11th Veterans Day We presented our Colors in our annual parade followed by our Lewis & Clark Young Marines and set up our recruiting table at the Veterans Day Open House with Rose Program and Veterans support information. 18th We had our Marine Corps Birthday celebration with excellent participation and support by our L&C YM's. DECEMBER: Due to Christmas Holiday we decided not to meet. On 16 December, our YM's assembled at Evergreen Memorial Garden and cemetery to lay some 200 Wreaths on Veterans Graves. Along with providing a Color Guard on the 16th and 19th for the Trailblazer games. JANUARY: The Weather pretty much shut us down again as far as meetings are concerned. On 8 January, your Adjutant received a call from GySgt John Hudson's bride letting me know that John was in the hospital of life support and was not expected to survive, the next day she called and let me know that he had passed, and she would let me know when his Celebration of Life was going to be. On the 12th we had his services, and the church was filled with people who had crossed paths with him in Life. John joined our detachment in 2005 and was initiative-taking with his support of his Corps Family. He soon became a volunteer with our YM program as their Training Officer and was our Liaison with the program. He is truly missed. FEBRUARY: 9 Feb L&C Pound enjoyed their Kibbles n Bits and Growl. 16 Feb we had a guest speaker Col Mike Howard USMCR (Ret.) local historian on the history of our Corps in the Pacific NW arriving in 1836.MARCH: We had our 1st business meeting since October, long dry spell but we came in strong with an excellent meal and camaraderie. Our Det. MOY Committee met following the Det meeting and selected their Marine of the Year. SrVice Toby Clairmont – 2025 Dept. Convention preparations: Right now we have a small group working on the convention, we are looking at several venues, unlike our friends here in Yakima we live in an area of Portland and Vancouver and things are getting pretty pricey, we have to be careful in order to provide

true value to the Dept. Right now the leading candidate is the Holiday Inn on the Columbia River just a few minutes south of Vancouver, the facility is good and their offer of fee meeting and hospitality room are at no cost. For planning purposes mark your calendars for 5-8 June 2025.

- **MT. ST. HELENS DET. #889: Glen E. Espersen** – Good morning Marines! The Mt St Helens Det. have been having their monthly meetings. In Nov we helped put wreaths on Veterans graves along with other members from the American Legion, Patriot Guards, and the people from Wreaths Across America. We also celebrated our Marine Corps Birthday. In Dec. we gave two Veteran families Christmas dinners, helped pay some bills for them, and gave them Christmas gifts. The VFW also helped by providing food. We have also had our nominations for our officers for this upcoming year and had our end of season get together at Vernie’s Pizza.
- **MT. OLYMPUS DET. #897: Mark Schildknecht** – *HG Report: Funerals- 4 (Originally 6 scheduled- one cancelled due to snow; another canceled due to no rifle firing in private community. Bell Ringing’s- 6 at Local Port Angeles Veterans Park Ceremonies- 1- Veterans Day Ceremony at USCG Base- Port Angeles. 2023 Year End Totals- Funerals- 11; Bell ringing’s- 12; Ceremonies-4. Honor Guard gained one new member and lost one member (moved to Texas) *Toys for Tots Report: Toys Distributed- 8906. Children Supported- 4637.; Money Collected Locally- \$31,415.59. Detachment Marine ‘Santa’ personally collected- \$10,720 (over 1/3 of total amount). *Stand Down- Port Angeles October 5th Change this year brought less need for Detachment members to participate. However, several Detachment members volunteered as needed. *Six New Members Installed at October 24th Detachment meeting- USMC Lt. Col Ret.; one Navy Nurse (female); 3 Army plus one new member installed at March 26th meeting- Female Army veteran. 25-year career, retired E-9. *Marine Corps Birthday Celebration November 10, 2023: Eighty-seven were in attendance to our celebration, held at the 7 cedars Casino in Blynn. Several were from out of the area. Guest speaker- Dept. Commandant John (‘Moose’ Moysiuk). Another great auction was held. *Annual Festival of Trees November 25th (First time Entry for Detachment): Two Detachment members volunteered to ‘build’ a tree to enter into the annual community fund raising event for the Port Angeles Olympic Medical Center Foundation. Our tree was won by the Port Angeles ‘Queen of Angels’ Catholic Church, who displayed it in their school. *First Time Donation to Sun Bonnet Sue Quilt Club 12-13-23 Detachment members voted to donate \$500 to a local Quilt club for cloth needed to make 8 quilts for Veterans living at the new “ Minsky Place” for Disabled Veterans in Sequim. *Wreathes across America Donation November 28th As a ‘Gold Sponsor”, our Detachment Donation of \$500 sponsored 75 of the 2415 wreathes placed on Veterans markers in 15 local cemeteries. *Two Long Time member Passed and One Moved Out of the Area: Marine Eric Miner (MOY 2023) passed away unexpectedly November 29th. He joined our Detachment 3-9-2010 and was the overall person in charge of parades and Toys for Tots for several years. Marine Ken Allen joined 3-2-2003. Marine Sid Gerling joined 4-26-2013 and moved to Texas to be near family November 7, 2023. Sid was an Honor Guard member and very active in our Detachment. He has joined a Detachment in Georgetown. *Republican Party Request of Honor Guard 1-25-24: The memorial turned out to be a political convention at the Vern Burton Gym in Port Angeles. Commandant Schildknecht replied via email- “Military organizations are non-partisan and therefore cannot take any part in a political event”. *2024-2025 Officers Elected at March 26, 2024 meeting: Commandant- Mike Hakanson, Sr. Vice- Mark Schildknecht, Jr. Vice- Holly Rowan & J/A- Dan Abbott
- **SKAGIT VALLEY DET. #1043: Robert Olivarez** – Detachment 1043 has participated in the following events Nov 23 Joined Bellingham Detachment in the Marine Corps Birthday Dec Donated 10,000\$ to the Skagit Valley Herald for the Xmas Program. We also donated to the Salvation Army which helps kids in Anacortes and Island County. January 24 we participated in a joint recruitment and awareness campaign with the MOPH. We spoke to a few potential members to join Skagit and Pierce county detachments. upcoming events: we will be take part in ROTC Awards ceremonies for the 1st time ever

schools to include Burlington-Edison, Arlington, Marysville, Everett, and Snohomish high schools Memorial day we have already made plans to do 3 service around Skagit county.

- **YAKIMA KITTITAS VALLEY DET. #1055: Nicholas Myers** – The current detachment strength is 19 regular members, 3 associate members and 15 Permanent Life member s. Information about the detachment can be found on our website: www.mclyakima.com or our Facebook page. The detachment held 3 monthly meetings since the Fall Staff meeting. There have been three funeral honor details performed, two of which were for MCL Det. 1055 members Almart Olsen and John Smith. The detachment was represented at the annual Veterans Stand Down on October 2 for which the detachment donated \$100.00. This was an opportunity to meet many of the veterans in the Yakima area and to encourage Marines and Navy FMF personnel to come on board. The detachment sponsored and presented the annual Veterans Day services at Sarg Hubbard park. We were invited to participate in the Toys for Tots program this year and over 3 000 children in the greater Yakima area were given a Merry Christmas thanks to our local Marines. The detachment added 2 new members in February and March. We are currently putting the Department Convention together and will be putting out the registration information soon.
- **CPL JOSEPH P. BIER DET. #1119: Jonathan Akers** – Detachment continues monthly business meetings and breakfast. Time and location for business meeting has changed to the 2nd Saturday of the month after breakfast. We have added no new members since the last report but have contacted one potential new member who has shown interest in joining. Successful turn out for Toys for Tots, the League was involved with gathering toys and donations outside of Chehalis Walmart. The Honor Guard is also preparing for the ceremony at the Grand Mound Cemetery in Rochester, WA on Memorial Day.
- **CAPT. DANIEL B. BARTLE DET #1335: (Albert Seaton) / Steve Reese** - The Whatcom County Det. submits for review and the Department records the following report of our activities from 1 October 2023 to March 31, 2024. The det. meetings were held the first Wed. of every month with a full quorum with between 20 and 25 in attendance. Paid Lifetime Membership (PLM) is at ten (10) with a current total membership of thirty-three. The det. supported the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on November 10th with 75 in attendance. The Whatcom County Detachment was honored to have several members from the Skagit detachment including their Commandant. Col Steve Reese gave the reading of the Birthday Ball Message. The Detachment supported Toys for Tots with Marines and Auxiliary supporting this effort. Leading the charge, detachment member Col. Wes Weston and his wife Teresa, Steve and Sharon Reese, Ted Wiemer, Gavin Norton, and many others who played a pivotal role in providing over 300 hours delivering 9,410 toys to 3,678 children in the Whatcom area. The Skagit Detachment graciously donated their Toys for Tots cargo truck which will get a new lease on life as the Whatcom Detachment’s Toys for Tots van. Special thanks to both Bellingham Automotive and NAPA for donating approximately \$5,000.00 worth of parts and countless hours of time towards the van. The Detachment is now gearing up for the Whatcom Memorial Day Parade with Sr. Vice Steve Reese leading the charge as the Chair of the Board with Marine Corps League Members Jose Ledesma, Betty McMaster, Al Seaton, Philip Carroll, and Sharon Reese as Board Members. Parade Meetings have been in effect for several months and will be held on May 25,2024. Hours: Marine Corps Birthday Ball – 12 members and 120 hours. Toys For Tots – 14 Mbrs and 350 hours Parade – 6 members and 68 hours to date
- **COL RICHARD FRANCISCO #1451: – Robert “Bob” Gabelein** – The Detachment has held regular monthly meetings. We served as honor guards for one memorial in the fall. Held a ceremony with the Oak Harbor VFW honoring all veterans who passed in the previous six months from the county in November. Held a birthday ball on November 10th . We had a very successful Toys for Tots in December. When the burial for LCpl Donovan Davis was in Oak Harbor, I offered our services for the funeral but were not needed. Several members went to Oak Harbor to stand in a flag line in honor of him. We also had a memorial for a Korean War Marine on the 16th of March. We are trying to find a way to honor one of

our group who was the sole survivor of a patrol in Vietnam. He has written out an after-action report and I have sent it off to CMC but have not heard anything. He was transferred the day after returned to another unit and didn't get any recognition for bringing his squad back. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

OLD BUSINESS: John Moysiuk we need a motion to approve going forward with our new Department Website, Rex Hopper, so moved, 2nd Dennis Dressler and a few more. Discussion: We will get the current link out

NEW BUSINESS: nun

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

1. Marine Corps League National Convention August 8 - 19, 2024 The Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa 71333 Dinah Shore Drive Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, US; Information For The 2024 National Convention Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort And Spa. Can Be Found On The National Website: [Convention – Marine Corps League \(Mcleaguelibrary.Org\)](#) **Hotel Reservation Link:** [Marine Corps League National Convention - Start Your Reservation \(Passkey.Com\)](#) **Hotel Reservation Phone: (888) 627-7086** **Reservation Code: "MCL" Or "Marine Corps League "DELEGATE REGISTRATION:** https://register.etransfer.com/cgi-bin/acct/92QK85XHPB/displayForm.pl?dir=6WYLUQA7_2023 **NAT'L AD BOOK:** https://register.etransfer.com/cgi-bin/acct/92QK85XHPB/displayForm.pl?dir=M3DB84M1_2023 **Visit Local Host Committee Site:** [2024 National Convention | MCL Dept of CA \(mcldeptca.org\)](#) Convention Events & Excursions, Golf Tournament, California Room, Travel & Local Information, Convention Schedule, Uniform Protocol, and Rules of Convention.
2. **The Navy And Marine Corps Will Celebrate Their 250th Anniversaries In Philadelphia And Camden Fall Of 2025** <https://www.homecoming250.org/>
3. **The Tun Tavern Foundation:** <https://thetun.org/> Member of the 250 year celebration Water Street & Tun Alley. Philadelphia. The rest of the story... <https://thetun.org/history>

CLOSING CEREMONY 1145.

ATTACHMENT 1

Veteran Bill Tracking, March 1, 2024

| Bill Number | Title | Sponsor (Combined) | Status | Bill Summary |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--|
| ESHB 1862 | Disabled veteran assist./tax | FIN(Leavitt) | S 2nd Reading | ESHB: Provides a business and occupation tax exemption for amounts received from sales on a military reservation by a nonprofit that operates an adaptive recreational facility that serves disabled veterans and members of the armed forces. • Provides a retail sales and use tax exemption for sales on a military reservation by a nonprofit that operates an adaptive recreational facility that serves disabled veterans and members of the armed forces. |
| SHB 1905 | Equal pay/protected classes | LAWS(Mena) | H Spkr Signed | <i>(Companion Bill SB 5894 Nobles)</i> SHB: Amends the Equal Pay and Opportunities Act to prohibit an employer from discriminating in compensation and career advancement opportunities against similarly employed employees based on the employee's age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. |
| HB 1917 | Physician assistant compact | (Leavitt) | H Spkr Signed | <i>(Companion Bill SB 5815 Muzzall)</i> HB: Adopting the physician assistant compact. Exempts certain information and data relating to physician assistant multistate licenses and applications from the Public Records Act. |
| SHB 1939 | Social work compact | PEW(Orwall) | H Spkr Signed | SHB: Adopting the social work licensure compact. |
| HB 1943 | National guard ed. grants | (Leavitt) | S 2nd Reading | HB: Expands eligibility for the Washington National Guard Postsecondary Education Grant to the spouse or dependent of a Washington National Guard member. Extends eligibility for the Washington National Guard Postsecondary Education Grant from five years or 125 percent of the published length of the student's program to six years or 150 percent of the published length of the student's program. |
| HB 2004 | Military student early reg. | (McEntire) | S Passed 3rd | HB: Requires institutions of higher education that provide early course registration to allow students who are eligible veterans, national guard members, active duty military members, and their spouses, domestic partners, and dependents early course registration. |
| 2SHB 2014 | Definition of veteran | APP(Volz) | S 2nd Reading | <i>(Companion Bill SR 5871 Iovick)</i> 2SHB: Standardizes requirements relating to qualifying discharges for the purpose of establishing eligibility for various benefit |

| Bill Number | Title | Sponsor (Combined) | Status | Bill Summary |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--|
| | | | | programs for veterans. • Provides a definition of "qualifying discharge." |
| EHB 2088 | Crisis teams/liability | (Orwall) | S Pres Signed | EHB: Provides covered entities and personnel with immunity from civil liability for negligent acts and omissions while providing: (1) specified crisis care services under clinical supervision to persons experiencing a behavioral health crisis, if the act or omission is done or omitted in good faith within the scope of the individual's employment responsibilities; (2) transportation of patients to specified services. |
| HB 2111 | Subsidized child care | (Nance) | S Pres Signed | <i>(Companion Bill SB 5941 C. Wilson)</i> HB: Reorganizes existing statutory language pertaining to the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program, and references WCCC eligibility requirements established in Department of Children, Youth, and Families rules. Removes dates indicating deadlines that are in the past and no longer applicable as well as other outdated references. Changes a reference from "immigration" status of an applicant or consumer's child to "citizenship" status. |
| SB 5180 | Teacher mobility compact | (Hunt) | H Passed 3rd | SB: Adopts the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact (Compact) and its provisions. • Limits license reciprocity to those determined to be eligible by each member state of the Compact. • Directs states under the Compact to submit a list of eligible licenses that the state will grant to licensees coming from other Compact member states. • Requires member states to grant an equivalent license to active military members and military spouses who hold an eligible teaching license. • Specifies that member states have discretion in relation to recertification requirements. • Creates the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Commission with certain administrative requirements. • Establishes that the Compact will come into effect on the date on which the Compact is enacted into law in the 10th member state. |
| SSB 5803 | National guard recruitment | WM(Conway) | H Passed 3rd | <i>(Companion Bill HB 1869 Leavitt)</i> SSB: Establishes the Washington National Guard member referral incentive program, which provides a referral bonus of no more than \$500 to Washington National Guard members who make a successful referral. |
| SB 6238 | Property tax/veteran widows | (Dozier) | H Passed 3rd | Updating thresholds for the property tax exemption for widows and widowers of honorably discharged veterans. (There are 3 income thresholds and 3 levels of grants provided. Bill is effective for taxes collected in 2025.) |

TOYS FOR TOTS - NORTHWEST DIVISION RECAP - ALL LOCATIONS - 2023

Toys for Tots - Oregon - 2023

| Local Coordinator Area (County) | POC | Contact Phone # | Contact Email | Toys Distributed | Children Supported |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Portland/Mult, Wash, Clack, Yamhill, Clats | SSgt Eihan Aponies | 503-700-6617 | portland.or@toysfortots.org | 52,697 | 25,529 |
| Monmouth (Polk/Marion/Lincoln/Linn/Benz) | Tara Weston | 503-917-9121 | dallas.or@toysfortots.org | 42,648 | 15,670 |
| Daniel & Crockett Det 1228 MCL (Clatsop) | Reverly Neubecker | 503-717-2269 | neuber@at.net | 8,737 | 1,580 |
| Hond (Central Oregon Det 130A MCL - ind) | Jody Shaffer | 541-848-1999 | jody.shaffer73@gmail.com | 7,594 | 5,203 |
| Crook, Deschutes, Harney, Jefferson, & Klamath-North) | | | | | |
| Brookings (Curry & Northern California) | Mona Chandler | 541-251-0823 | lmsfordk@charter.net | 3,768 | 1,021 |
| Roseburg (Douglas) | Ryan Travis | 541-784-8174 | roseburg.or@toysfortots.org | 4,751 | 1,563 |
| Jackson | Kevin Cartobel | 541-604-8897 | jackson.county.or@toysfortots.org | 12,141 | 3,344 |
| Josephine | Linda Bradley | 541-489-4157 | josephine.county.or@toysfortots.org | 3,981 | 1,440 |
| Klamath Falls (Klamath & Lake) | Eric Anderson | 541-238-5353 | klamath.falls.or@toysfortots.org | 17,242 | 4,125 |
| Eugene (Lane) | SGT Robert Medina Euan | 541-463-7297 | eugene.or@toysfortots.org | 25,382 | 15,110 |
| Salem (Marion) - merged w/Monmouth | Jason Ramos | 503-758-4870 | 14marioncounty@gmail.com | | |
| Total | | | | 176,109 | 85,963 |
| 2022 → | | | | 148,500 | 77,941 |

Toys for Tots - Washington - 2023

| Local Coordinator Area/County | POC | Contact Phone # | Contact Email | Toys Distributed | Children Supported |
|--|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Lewiston ID (Asotin, Garfield, Whitman) | Jason Brown | 210-428-1540 | lewiston.id@toysfortots.org | 5,503 | 1,810 |
| Pasco (Benton, Franklin) | Glen M. Carter | 509-521-8353 | pasco.wa@toysfortots.org | 16,192 | 3,450 |
| (Columbia) | Nancy Zimmermann | 253-856-346 | port.angeles.wa@toysfortots.org | 8,908 | 4,817 |
| Grays Harbor | Jeremy Koehrian | | | 5,317 | 1,853 |
| Thurston County | John Moysuk | 360-584-8373 | olympia.wa@toysfortots.org | 46,630 | 9,410 |
| Langley Island, including South Whidbey) | Sandra Moon | 360-672-2404 | southwhidbey@toysfortots.org | 4,278 | 485 |
| Whidbey Island (Island County - North) | Thomas Bond | 360-673-4326 | whidbey.island.wa@toysfortots.org | 2,514 | 1,072 |
| (Jefferson) | Don Olson | 360-379-8700 | port.townsend.wa@toysfortots.org | 1,071 | 516 |
| (King) | Cpl Benjamin Miller | 760-456-3203 | fort.lewis.wa@toysfortots.org | 61,687 | 51,230 |
| (Kitsap) | Jason Selby | 360-434-5096 | hotbar.wa@toysfortots.org | 21,435 | 3,356 |
| (Lewis) | Bonnie Holden | 360-329-3446 | chehalis.wa@toysfortots.org | 3,411 | 1,000 |
| Shelton, WA (Mason) | Leather Kennedy | 360-490-0630 | shelton.wa@toysfortots.org | 11,121 | 1,061 |
| (Pierce) | Michelle Jenkins | 253-459-4943 | pierce.county.wa@toysfortots.org | 50,005 | 50,763 |
| (Snohomish) | Mary Buller | 425-309-0047 | everett.wa@toysfortots.org | 149,345 | 73,578 |
| Spokane | Marine Toys for Tots | 509-990-8454 | spokane.wa@toysfortots.org | 44,122 | 9,450 |
| (Whatcom) & Bellingham | Wes Weston | 360-207-0224 | bellingham.wa@toysfortots.org | 9,410 | 3,078 |
| Yakima | SGT John Carmona | 509-676-6761 | yakima.wa@toysfortots.org | 8,418 | 3,844 |
| Total | | | | 487,013 | 226,296 |
| 2022 → | | | | 462,893 | 191,344 |

Toys for Tots - Alaska - 2023

| Local Coordinator Area/County | POC | Contact Phone # | Contact Email | Toys Distributed | Children Supported |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Entire State-All Counties | Egt Nicholas Raumbach | 915-407-0880 | anchorage.ak@toysfortots.org | Total 28,062 | 20,781 |
| 2022 → | | | | 35,867 | 21,144 |

Toys for Tots - Idaho - 2023

| Local Coordinator Area/County | POC | Contact Phone # | Contact Email | Toys Distributed | Children Supported |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rosa (Ada-Adams, Canyon, Elmore, Cern) | SSgt Ricardo Morley | 208-573-5917 | boon.id@toysfortots.org | 70,632 | 14,082 |
| Coeur D'Alene (Kootenai) | William Coder | 208-681-1003 | coeur.dalene.id@toysfortots.org | 10,658 | 3,000 |
| Idaho Falls (Blaineville, Fremont, Jefferson) | Michael Schaner | 208-206-1356 | idaho.falls.id@toysfortots.org | 8,301 | 2,140 |
| Lewiston (Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis) | Jason Brown | 208-746-5342 | lewiston.id@toysfortots.org | 8,583 | 1,818 |
| Pocatello (Bannock, Bingham, Caribou, Power) | Phillip Hartman | 208-598-8097 | pocatello.id@toysfortots.org | 13,399 | 4,147 |
| Shoshone (Silver Valley Toys for Tots) | Major Craig Petersen | 571-572-8526 | kailogg.id@toysfortots.org | 1,129 | 297 |
| Twin Falls (Blaine, Cernis, Cassia, Gooding) | Paul Johnson | 208-316-6800 | twin.falls.id@toysfortots.org | 19,791 | 8,052 |
| Total | | | | 127,833 | 33,648 |
| 2022 → | | | | 110,325 | 30,937 |

Toys for Tots - Montana - 2023

| Local Coordinator Area/County | POC | Contact Phone # | Contact Email | Toys Distributed | Children Supported |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Billings (Yellowstone) | David Dennis | 406-373-8403 | billings.mt@toysfortots.org | 16,111 | 4,709 |
| Helena (Broadwater, Lewis&C, N.Jefferson) | Angie Pilling | 406-481-5302 | helena.mt@toysfortots.org | 18,076 | 3,711 |
| Butte, Madison (Western Jefferson) | Mike Lawson | 406-560-3591 | butte.mt@toysfortots.org | 8,530 | 1,203 |
| Cascade, Chouteau, Glacier (Great Falls) | Kat Winash | 406-761-0870 | great.falls.mt@toysfortots.org | 9,218 | 2,101 |
| Chippewa Reservation (Native Amer.-MI) | Howard Mears | 406-431-4109 | *not included w/Montana in 2023 | | |
| Custer, Dawson, Prairie (Miles City) | Edward Kendrick | 406-234-2235 | miles.city.mt@toysfortots.org | 873 | 326 |
| Deer Lodge (Agnacords) | Dave Ferchak | 406-285-1360 | amaconda.mt@toysfortots.org | 1,098 | 590 |
| Flathead | Katley King | 406-471-9299 | toys4flathead@toysfortots.org | 38,204 | 3,025 |
| Lake | Lisa St. Clair | 803-477-0009 | polson.mt@toysfortots.org | 7,044 | 806 |
| Galatin (Roseman & Belgrade) | Frank Palucci | 406-586-3594 | bozeman.mt@toysfortots.org | 2,304 | 481 |
| Gallatin | Dave Ferchak | | | 897 | 90 |
| Missoula, Havati | Tammy Cunningham | 406-860-9668 | missoula.mt@toysfortots.org | 9,612 | 2,445 |
| Musselshell | Justin Russell | 406-320-1159 | roundup.mt@toysfortots.org | 570 | 116 |
| Powell | Mounce (Mark) Mounce | 406-560-5093 | deer.lodge.mt@toysfortots.org | 807 | 168 |
| Total | | | | 110,592 | 19,840 |
| 2022 → | | | | 95,896 | 18,142 |

Fund Expenditure
2023 Program to Support Rate

- Program 97.2%
- Fundraising 2.2%
- Overhead 0.6%



★★★★★ **Raised Charity**

Grand Total - Northwest Division

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 917,289 | 288,618 |
| 2022 → | 628,491 | 229,478 |
| National Total-2023 | 26,400,000 | 10,200,000 |



To: Commandant John Brown, Melvin M Smith Detachment 586
From: Department of Washington Judge Advocate Joel Cartwright

Subject: Ruling on National Bylaws Date: 23 January 2024

CC: Department of Washington Commandant John Moysiuk, National Judge Advocate David Porter

Sir Commandant, You emailed me with a request for a ruling on the voting of the membership and member transfers regarding a new Detachment. Your questions were related to and specifically about the members who want to start a new Detachment within the 25 mile radius of Melvin M Smith Detachment 586 and who were also members of Melvin M Smith. After consideration, here is my ruling. I have formatted it so that my answers and explanations to your specific questions are in red font, with your questions in black.

So, my question is, can they vote on this issue of agreeing to another Spokane Detachment?

I understand your question to be, can current members of Melvin M Smith who are planning on splitting off and forming a new Detachment vote on the new Detachment's existence within the 25 mi radius as per the National Administrative Procedures? YES. All current, paid up members in good standing who are present at the regular Detachment meeting where the vote is put to the membership may vote. What specifically the vote is about has no bearing on the voting rights of the membership.

It seems they should have applied for transfer to submit their application and would then not be members of Melvin M. Smith Detachment when the vote happens.

At the time of the vote, the potential Detachment is nothing but just that- a POTENTIAL Detachment. There is nowhere for them to transfer to. Per the National Administrative Procedures, Section 6000, A(2), "... any regular member of an existing detachment must provide a Request for Transfer Form to be attached to the charter application" otherwise they are not eligible to sign the Charter. The same goes for any New Dual Member. So they cannot request a transfer until they apply for a charter. All that paperwork goes together in the package along with the Transmittals and Dues.

To me it would seem to be a conflict of interest to allow them to vote on this question and then be able to transfer. Should they be transferred first? If they do not transfer, aren't they playing both sides without risk to themselves?

Are the members "playing both sides without risk to themselves?" Is it a "conflict of interest to allow them to vote on this question?" Same answer for both: YES. That doesn't change anything about their ability to vote. If a Detachment is fractured to the point where there are that many members that want to leave, then that would mean that there are serious problems at the leadership level of the Detachment. The burden is on the leadership to encourage members to be active in their Detachment, not the other way around. As per NAP Section 7060, Dual Membership, "This includes that they have full voting rights within each detachment to vote on any issue within each individual detachment...." So, even if a member could be a Dual Member (remember, it is only a proposed Detachment), they could still vote as a full voting member of Melvin M Smith.

Section 6040 is not the Section you quoted in your email. You quoted Section A(2). If you read past the part you quoted, it would have answered your question, as I stated above. I hope this answers your questions. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to ask. If you disagree with this ruling, please contact the National Judge Advocate David Porter.

Thank you Sir Commandant. Semper Fidelis! Joel Cartwright Judge Advocate
Department of Washington Marine Corps League
Reference: 2023 National Administrative Procedures, Sections 6000 and 706