



Department of Washington
Marine Corps League
Spring Staff Meeting
Oxford Suites
1701 E. Yakima Ave., Yakima, WA 98801
<http://www.mcldeptwa.org>

April 3, 2021

Joint Opening Ceremony:

Officiated by Department Commandant George Hilbish II

- **Commandant:** "Sergeant-At-Arms, secure quarters and satisfy yourself that all present are qualified to be present during the deliberations of this Department Session."
- **Sergeant-At-Arms:** "Aye, Aye, Sir." "The quarters are secured and all present are qualified to remain."
- **Commandant:** "Post the Colors."
- **Sergeant-At-Arms:** "Aye, Aye, Sir." (Hand Salute) (Pledge of Allegiance said)
- **Commandant:** "The Chaplain will lead us in prayer"
- **Chaplain:** (Opens Bible & leads in prayer)
- **Commandant:** "Sergeant-At-Arms, declare this meeting open for the transaction of official business."
- **Sergeant-At-Arms:** "By authority of the Department of Washington Commandant, Marine Corps League, I declare this meeting open for the transaction of official business."

Welcome remarks by host Detachment:

Host Detachment Yakima-Kittitas #1055. Remarks provided by Commandant Nic Meyer welcoming all.

Recognition of National Officers:

- MCL NJA TJ Morgan
- NWD NVC John Moysiuk
- Honorable NWD Vice Chief Devil Dog PDD Bonnie Holden
- National VAVS Deputy Rex Hopper

Recognition of Past Department Commandants:

- Dennis Dressler
- Ed Falter
- John Stofiel
- Rex Hopper

Recognition of MCLA and Officers: Department Commandant calls MCLA President to allow her to present her staff (Sena Moreland).

- Distinguished Guests
 - Past National President Caroline Ruhmshottel

- Past Division Vice President NW Sam Dressler
- Division Vice President NW Vickie Brown
- President Sena Moreland
- Sr Vice Rebecca Corpuz
- Jr Vice Vickie Brown
- Judge Advocate Sandy Falter
- Jr Past President Susan Douglas
- Secretary/Treasurer Jaci Kruse
- Chaplain Sam Dressler
- Captain of the Guard Carol Lucei
- Historian Vickie Brown
- Past Department Presidents present
 - Sam Dressler
 - Sandy Falter

Commandant excuses MCLA.

Recognition of Recipients of NW Division Marine of the Year:

- TJ Morgan
- John Moysiuk
- Dennis Dressler
- Bonnie Holden

Recognition of Recipients of Department Marine of the Year:

- Dennis Dressler
- TJ Morgan
- John Stofiel
- Randy Ott
- Bonnie Holden
- John Moysiuk
- Rex Hopper
- Mark Schildknecht
- Bill Hauser
- Ron Black

Recognition of "First Timers" to Department meeting:

- 0 First Timers

Roll Call of Officers:

- Commandant George Hilbish II
- Sr Vice Commandant John Moysiuk
- Jr Vice Commandant Ed Falter
- Judge Advocate Shane Inman
- Chaplain Dennis Dressler

- Sergeant-At-Arms Mark Schildknecht
- Paymaster Bill Hauser
- Adjutant Randy Ott
- Jr Past Commandant Bonnie Holden

Correspondence:

- **None at this time.**

Minutes of previous meeting: (Made available online from Fall Staff Virtual Meeting)

- **Commandant:** I will entertain a motion to accept the minutes as previously published. John Stofiel motioned, Rex Hopper seconded, discussion. Motion carried.

Adjutant Report: Randy Ott – Read report; electronic copy emailed to all leadership.

Paymaster Report: Bill Hauser – Read report and amounts; electronic copy has been submitted for the Department website. Dennis Dressler motioned to accept, Rex Hopper seconded, motion carried.

Chaplain Report: Provided by Dennis Dressler: Since October 2020, there have been **Ten** Notices of Death received from Detachments and forwarded to National Headquarters. The list below is based upon date of passing as opposed to when received from the Detachment Chaplain (or Adjutant or Commandant).

Simba McKenzie	Columbia River
Richard Harrelson	Pierce County
Verne (Joe) Burch	Melvin M Smith
Jeffrey Barnes	Columbia River
James (Jim) Renton	Columbia River
Elizabeth Turner	Mt St Helens
John Witham	Mt St Helens
Leo Leonard	Mt Olympus
Carol Sue Bradshaw	Mt Olympus
John Oldham	Pierce County

Also, this report includes the passing of PNCs Jim Laskey and Eddie MacIntyre.

Report of Officers:

- Commandant George Hilbish II – Verbally given.
- Sr Vice Commandant John Moysiuk – Submitted.
- Jr Vice Commandant Ed Falter – Submitted.
- Judge Advocate Shane Inman – Submitted.
- Chaplain Dennis Dressler – Submitted.
- Sergeant-At-Arms Mark Schildknecht – Submitted.
- Paymaster Bill Hauser – Submitted.
- Jr Past Commandant Bonnie Holden – Submitted.

Report of Detachment Commandants:

- Puget Sound Det. #336: Rick Flath – Submitted.
- Tri-Cities Det. #337: Mike Ridgel – Submitted.
- Twin Harbors Det. #442: Ron Black – Submitted.
- Olympia Det. #482: Sky Busk – Submitted.
- Pierce County Det. #504: Mike Edwards – Submitted.
- Olympic Peninsula Det. #531: LouAnne Harrey – Submitted.
- Melvin M Smith Det. #586: Kari Sobisky – Submitted.
- Columbia River Det. #826: Lynn Bolte – Submitted.
- Mt. St. Helens Det. #889: Glen Esperson – No Communication Returned.
- Mt. Olympus Det. #897: Mark Schildknecht – Submitted.
- Skagit Valley Det. #1043: Tommy Watson – Submitted.
- Yakima Kittitas Valley Det. #1055: Nicholas Myers – Submitted.
- Cpl Joseph P Bier Det. #1119: Bonnie Holden – Submitted.
- Capt Daniel B. Bartle Det #1335: – Phillip Carrol – Submitted.
- Col Richard Francisco #1451: – Robert Gabelein – Submitted.

Report of Standing Committees/Advisory Councils:

- Americanism – Bonnie Holden – Submitted.
- Audit – Bill Hauser – N/A
- Awards – Randy Ott – Submitted.
- Boy Scout Awards – Bonnie Holden – Submitted.
- Budget and Finance – Bill Hauser – N/A
- Bylaws – Shane Inman – N/A
- Convention – Commandant – Submitted via Det. 586
- Credentials – Bill Hauser – N/A
- Detachment Commandants Council – John Moysiuk – N/A
- Homeless Veterans – John Moysiuk – Submitted.
- Legislative – Shane Inman – Submitted.
- Marine for Life – Mark Gorman – Submitted.
- Marine of the Year Society – John Moysiuk – Submitted.
- Membership – Bill Hauser – N/A
- Newsletter – Charles Ames – Submitted.
- Nominations – Bonnie Holden – Submitted.
- Past Department Commandants Council – Bonnie Holden – N/A
- Public Relations Officer – Charles Ames – Submitted.
- Resolutions – Dennis Dressler – N/A
- Rock 32 Ceremony – Commandant – Submitted.
- Rules – Shane Inman – N/A
- Toys for Tots – LouAnne Harrey – Submitted.
- Training Officer – Don Nilson – Submitted.
- VAAC Representative – Larry Alcantara/Ron Black – Submitted.

- VAVS (VA Volunteer Services) – Rex Hopper – Submitted.
- Veterans Service Officer – Vacant.
- Web Sergeant – Bill Hauser – Submitted.
- Young Marines Liaison – Ed Falter – Submitted.

***** ALL REPORTS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY ARE ATTACHED AT THE END OF THIS REPORT *****

Old Business: (Oct 2019; no official business conducted since the Fall Staff 2020 due to Covid-19)

- Adjutant Ott motioned that our Finance Budget perform a line-item review to determine adjustments to the current budget for funding of expenses including the Commandant's travel by the Paymaster. Seconded by Ron Black. Discussion. Motion carried. Committee members are John Stofiel, Randy Ott and Bill Hauser.

Update: the work continues and will be prepared by the June Convention.

- Bob Gabelein motioned to create a restricted fund for Commandant's travel to the budget with the donations from the Detachments. Seconded by John Stofiel. Discussion. Motion carried.

Update: Balance in the fund is 483\$.

- John Stofiel brought forth discussion about the Publications Committee being obsolete. Will be discussed at the Spring Staff meeting.

Update: Updated and removed.

- The Melvin M. Smith Det #586 is placing a bid to host the 2020 Department Convention. They passed a resolution at their September meeting and will submit an official resolution letter after the Dept. meeting.

Update: Will be hosted in Spokane 2021.

New Business:

- Department Convention "2021" – Spokane was approved to host the 2021 Dept. of Washington Annual Convention. Dates will be June 3-6, 2021 at the Mirabeau Parkway Hotel. Deadline is May 7th for \$10 registration. After that you will have to pay the \$20 late registration fee.
- John Moysiuk motioned to close the Dept. Homeless Veterans Council for lack of reporting. Seconded by Ron Black. Discussion. Motion carried.
- John Stofiel motioned to invite and host NJA TJ Morgan to the Dept Convention. Mark Gorman seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carried.
- TJ Morgan discussed going electronic for our reports. He motioned to discontinue paper copy reports to move to electronic copies. Dennis Dressler seconds. Discussion followed. Tabled discussion until June Department Convention.
- Commandant reminded us about 2022's convention needs to be hosted. Go back to your Detachment and make this happen.

Good of the League:

- NJA TJ Morgan and John Moysiuk shared the Chapel of Four Chaplains story and presented Bonnie Holden with the Legion of Honor.
- Adjutant Ott shared the work the Smith Detachment has been working on a Leadership Handbook to assist/guide the Det. Leaders to better perform their duties.

- NVC NWD John Moysiuk gave an update on what MCL National BOT has been doing since January 2021. They've held over 40 votes on many topics to move the MCL forward. Everything from rosters to why did you join the League.
- Awards presented by the Commandant for MCL National Jr. Vice Commandant Membership to:

Twin Harbors Det	Olympia Det
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Last order of business was to present the 2020 Department Marine of the Year to Edwin Falter of the Yakima/Kittitas Detachment. Way to Go Ed! Congratulations!

Announcements:

- 2021 Department of Idaho Convention – Pocatello, ID, May 21-23
- 2021 Department of Montana Convention – Butte, MT June 11-12
- 2021 Department of Oregon Convention – Klamath Falls, OR July 9-10
- 2021 Department of Washington Convention – Spokane, June 3-6, 2021.
- 2021 MCL National Convention – Springfield, IL, August 8-14, 2021. Secondary plans TBD in the next 6 weeks.
- 2021 Department Fall Staff Meeting – October 1-2, 2021.
- 2022 MCL Mid-Winter – Feb 24-26, 2022 Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, 777 Waterside Dr., Norfolk, VA 23510

Total Attendance: 27 Members

Closing Ceremony: Closed by Department Commandant

- **Commandant:** “There being no further business, we will proceed to close.”
- **Commandant:** “Sergeant-At-Arms, Retire the Colors.”
- **Sergeant-At-Arms:** “Aye, Aye Sir.” (Hand Salute)
- **Commandant:** “The Chaplain will lead us in prayer.”
- **Chaplain:** “Please uncover.” (leads prayer and closes Bible) “Please cover.”
- **Commandant:** “Senior Vice Commandant, perform the last duty of your post.”
- **Senior Vice Commandant:** “Marines, the Department of Washington thanks you for your attendance, and requests you to secure new members, and further, that you favor us at every future meeting with your presence so far as your circumstances will permit.”
- **Commandant:** “Sergeant-At-Arms, declare this meeting of the Department of Washington, Marine Corps League officially closed.”
- **Sergeant-At-Arms:** “By authority of the Department of Washington Commandant, Marine Corps League, I declare this meeting officially closed until the Department Convention in Spokane on June 4th, when it will reopen for the transaction of official business.”

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**Jr. Past Commandant Report
2021 Spring Staff Report**

Nothing to report at this time. Will have more at the June Convention.

**Sr. Vice Commandant Report
2021 Spring Staff Report**

Currently, the Department Commandant is operational and active, thus my duties have been minimal.

Nothing else to report.

Semper Fidelis

John "Moose" Moysiuk
Sr Vice Commandant
moysiukjl@hotmail.com
360-584-8373

**Jr. Vice Commandant Report
2021 Spring Staff Report**



Since my installation as Junior Vice-Commandant last year during the Covid pandemic there has been little activity throughout the Department of Washington. It is safe to report that most of our Detachments maintained the "cease and desist" protocol regarding meetings and that there was little contact over the past year. I hope that many of you took it upon yourselves to reach out to your fellow Marines who may need support or simply to let them know that they are not forgotten. Esprit de Corps has been put to the test since last March and I know that we are not an organization that sits idly by during troubling times.

With that said, the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter. Let us put our best efforts into building a stronger League than before this lockdown and reach out to Marines everywhere. After all, we are "The Few, the Proud, the Marines".

Semper Fidelis,

Ed Falter

JVC

**Chaplain Report
2021 Spring Staff Report**

From: Dennis Dressler, Chaplain

To: George Hilbish II, Commandant

Via: Randy Ott, Adjutant

Subj: Report of Activities between Fall Staff Meeting 2020 and Spring Staff Meeting 2021

Due to the ongoing Corona Virus COVID-19 Pandemic my activities have been limited.

I volunteered at Mann-Grandstaff VAMC in the Covid-19 Inoculation Clinic.

I have answered all requests for information and processed all Notices of Death that have been sent to me and forwarded them to MCL National HQ with a separate copy for the National Chaplain.

Cards of Bereavement have been sent where appropriate; additionally, "Hospice Cards" have been sent to those members who had entered into hospice care.

Members who have entered into rest since Fall Staff include:

Simba McKenzie	Columbia River
Richard Harrelson	Pierce County
Verne (Joe) Burch	Melvin M Smith
Jeffrey Barnes	Columbia River
James (Jim) Renton	Columbia River
Elizabeth Turner	Mt St Helens
John Witham	Mt St Helens
Leo Leonard	Mt Olympus
Carol Sue Bradshaw	Mt Olympus
John Oldham	Pierce County

Semper Fidelis,

Dennis

**Adjutant Report
2021 Spring Staff Report**

Below is the SOS and 990 list of Department and Detachments filing dates. Depending on listed tax year, all units are current on their filings.

Washington Secretary of State Info:

Secretary of State Corporations Division
801 Capitol Way South
PO Box 40234
Olympia, WA 98504-0234
360-725-0377

	UBI #	INCORP	FILED
Dept. of WA	601587317	051047	2020
Puget Sound #336	602917923	042309	2019
Tri-Cities #337	602119092	032601	2020
Twin Harbors #442	601830219	102583	2020
Olympia #482	602148515	082701	2020
Pierce County #504	601804132	070797	2020
Olympic Peninsula #531	602992577	022810	2020
Melvin M. Smith #586	601309349	032791	2020
Columbia River #826	601492208	090393	2020
Mt. St. Helen's #889	601589728	112194	2020
Mt. Olympus #897	601974685	081799	2020
Skagit Valley Det. #1043	602005244	011000	2019
Yakima-Kittitas Valley #1055	602072701	092500	2020
Cpl Joseph P. Bier #1119	602240331	100702	2020
Capt Daniel B. Bartle Det #1335	602952869	090909	2020
Col Richard Francisco #1451	604143319	062717	2020

Internal Revenue Service Info:

	EIN	TAX YR	FILED
Dept. of WA	91-0533364	01/01-12/31	2019
Puget Sound #336	91-1435694	07/01-06/30	2019
Tri-Cities #337	91-6087173	09/01-08/31	2018
Twin Harbors #442	91-2053273	07/01-06/30	2019
Olympia #482	91-2143220	07/01-06/30	2019
Pierce County #504	91-1824633	07/01-06/30	2019
Olympic Peninsula #531	91-1285018	07/01-06/30	2019
Melvin M. Smith #586	91-1890134	07/01-06/30	2019
Columbia River #826	91-1647649	07/01-06/30	2019
Mt. St. Helen's #889	91-1650015	07/01-06/30	2020
Mt. Olympus #897	91-2058115	07/01-06/30	2018
Skagit Valley Det. #1043	91-2016335	07/01-06/30	2019
Yakima-Kittitas Valley #1055	91-2049201	07/01-06/30	2019
Cpl Joseph P Bier #1119	47-0890445	07/01-06/30	2019
Capt Daniel B. Bartle Det #1335	80-0463568	07/01-06/30	2019
Col Richard Francisco #1451	82-2027836	07/01-06/30	2019

ROIs are due to the Department within two weeks of installation. Please ensure a copy is sent accordingly. An electronic copy is fine so that I may update files and send a copy onto National. Using the current form is the best because it will adjust to your information. Please ensure you are fully completing the form. Missing information only delays the process. Thank you in advance.

Randy Ott Jr.
Adjutant
Department of Washington
509-998-9031

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**Judge Advocate Report
2021 Spring Staff Report**

There are no pending Chapter Nines currently in the Department.

Since being sworn in as the Department Judge Advocate, I have not reviewed any Detachment Bylaws.

There has been discussion about creating a more in-depth document to assist the elected and some appointed staff within the Detachments in protocol and procedures. This is only with the intention of making the transition to new positions easier and smoother.

Elections for 2021, meetings, and other challenges have been at the forefront of much of our business.

Detachment election protocols have been sent to Detachment Adjutants and Judge Advocates that I was able to get contact emails for. As I stated in the email, I am here to answer any questions you may have.

With the COVID Pandemic of 2020, we have all been forced to adapt our lifestyle, actions, interactions, and pretty much everything in our lives. Our Marine Corps League life has changed as well. As leaders of the Marines of your respective Detachments it is our duty to assist the members. There are always questions we do not have the answer to, but as a team we can find solutions to anything.

To all Detachment Commandant's and Judge Advocates, I suggest you review your Bylaws, and protocols yearly if possible as we are in changing times. As new Marines take on leadership roles this may help in the smooth transition.

Semper Fidelis
Shane Inman
Judge Advocate
Department of Washington
slinman87@gmail.com

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Paymaster Report 2021 Spring Staff Report

March 15, 2021

Account Balances

Checking: \$1,919.96 (with no outstanding checks)

Savings: \$14,435.18

Travel Fund: \$483.00 Commandants travel fund was voted into existence at the 2019 Fall staff meeting. It was suggested at that time Detachments donate to this fund when they have available funds. So far, four Detachments have contributed to the fund.

When emailing the Department Paymaster use **bhauser1952@msn.com**. The old Gmail address is no longer used. If you need to call me please leave a message so that I can get back to you. I don't answer numbers that I don't recognize.

National is aware of issues with the recent Detachment rosters. They have been working on fixing the problems. National sent out a new roster on 02/12/2021 that had many errors and followed up with an updated roster on 03/02/2021. With the roster on 02/12 they attached a letter explaining that they were aware of the errors and were working with the company that supplied the database to correct as many as possible (I've attached a copy of that letter to the back of this report). In the letter they asked if you found errors on your roster to document them and email them to **jfoster@mcleague.org**. I'm asking that if you do email National to copy me on the email so that I am aware of your problems.

Commandants and Paymasters now have access to the database, with the ability to make limited changes to member records. If you need help with access to the database contact me, by email and I will help you get into the database.

Be sure to use the **Official Transmittal form dated 7/1/2020** for transactions with National. **DD214s 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 and the other copy goes to National.

Dues for new member applications are \$25.00 to National and \$5.00 to the Department. Signed new member applications must be submitted with the check and transmittal. *Note on the transmittal, the reduced fees for new members, associate members and dual members between March 1st and June 30th to National of \$15.00. At the 2018 Spring Staff meeting it was decided that Department fees for that period would be reduced to \$2.50.*

Dues for Renewals are \$20.00 to National and \$5.00 to the Department. There are no Department fees for members paying for a life membership.

The new National policy for returning processed transmittals is to email the transmittals back to the Detachments.

Semper Fidelis,

Bill Hauser
Paymaster
Department of Washington
bhauser1952@msn.com
(360) 608-6672

Puget Sound Detachment 336
2021 Spring Staff Report

Membership – Detachment member since the fall has grown due to the capabilities from online registration off our website. We added 3 members since that time via that modality of recruitment, however, we still are looking for someone to fill the Jr. Vice Commandant position, which has been vacant over a 18 months. Members - 41 Regular and 2 Associate (Note we are working with Dept/National to correct the membership count, as we have 2 new members not being reported and 1 that was dropped from the list who's a Life as being deceased that need to be updated.

Marine Corps Birthday Dinner 2020 – Due to Covid-19 we did not host a Marine Corps Birthday dinner. Instead, we partnered with local Marine Support Group and conducted an online ceremony on November 10, 2020

Marine for Life - is still moving forward Ace is doing resume checks and helping with interview prep.

Toys for Tots – No update due to Covid-19

Pistol & Rifle Competition – Detachment events cancelled due to Covid-19

Marine Rose Program – Detachment events cancelled due to Covid-19

Deputy VAWS –N/A however via the Honor Guard we reported 200 VA volunteer hours

Honor Guard –

Leatherneck Honor Guard – Oct 2020 through Feb 2021

30 -Committal Services at Tahoma National Cemetery

Staffing has been 5 volunteers during this period of 2020/2021, based on operating under a pandemic staffing

Special Announcements – Due to the Covid-19 Puget Sound Detachment 336 has been conducting all meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Golf Committee - N/A

Legislative - Washington State Legislation relevant to Veterans and Marines is tracked by the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs and posted to the Detachment 336 website monthly as updates change the status of legislation. Highly relevant legislation is reviewed at Department monthly meetings and explained as needed

Quartermaster and Historian – N/A

Eagle Scout – N/A due to Covid-19

Fallen Marine – N/A

Detachment Facebook Page –

- 748 Followers - Detachment page
- 161 Page Reach past 30 days

- 145 Followers – Honor Guard page
- 285 Page Reach past 30 days
- Totals – Detachment & Honor Guard Pages Combined
 - 893 Followers
 - 446 Reach past 30 days

PAO/Web Sgt/Historian

Although the COVID lockdown affected physical meetings, Detachment 336’s Website and social media accounts continued as an information source to members and the public-at-large. The Public Affairs Officer manages the Detachment’s Website, LinkedIn account, Twitter account, YouTube account, and email list.

Website

The reach of the primary source of public information is the Puget Sound Marines Website. Every month of 2020 showed the Website to have over 1,000 unique visitors to the website who visited over 9,000 times per some months, with monthly views of pages that reached over 100,000 in one month (Figure 2).

Members (new and renewing) are also able to pay dues online and access member-only content. Donations are also able to be made through the Website.

The site will continue to evolve and improve through 2021 to better serve the membership and be a public information source on Detachment activities.

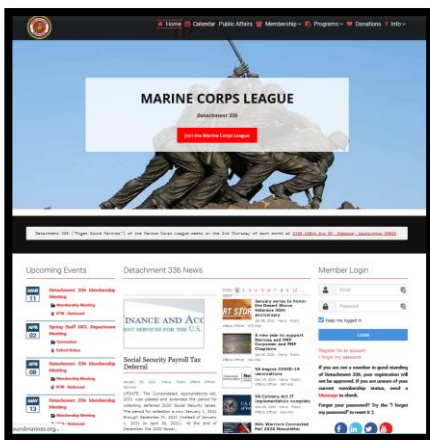


Figure 1 <http://www.pugetsoundmarines.org/>

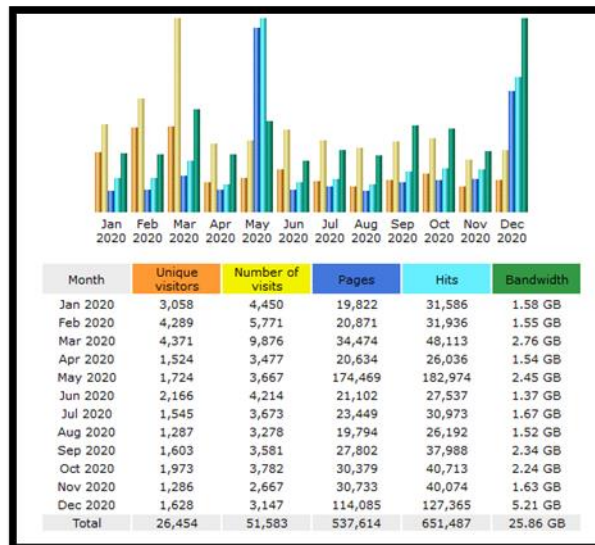


Figure 2 Website statistics

Social Media The Detachment’s LinkedIn account has grown through 2020 with more than 500 connections and over 700 followers. Connections made included inquires on how to join the Marine Corps League, and in particular, becoming a member of Detachment 336.



Figure 3 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mclDetachment336/>

The Detachment’s Twitter account has a successful message reach as seen in Figure 5, where a single tweet receives hundreds of impressions with engagement. The followers have grown to nearly 1,500 while the ratio to following (230) is quite low, indicating a popular Twitter account. The Detachment’s account has several dozen Twitter verified and influential followers in government, news, and entertainment fields.

Figure 4 <https://twitter.com/MCL336>

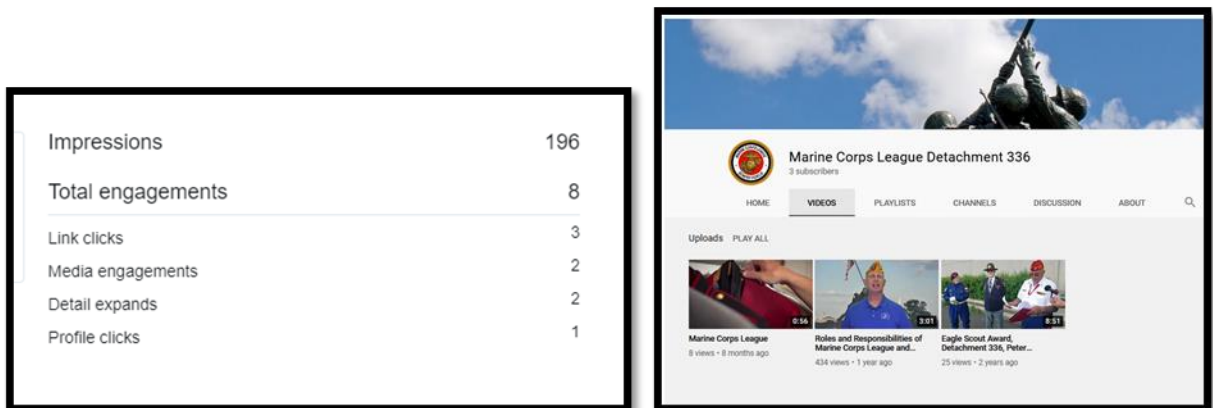


Figure 5 Tweet statistics

Due to the COVID lockdowns, the Detachment YouTube page is fairly inactive as events in 2020 were canceled. When physical events resume, videos will be created and uploaded.

Figure 6 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC60B8Rous59ECODY2I_EI_w/videos

Historical records

The Detachment’s historical records collection is planned to be placed online, and the method is yet to be determined. The goal of online historical records is to facilitate access to the records for members in order to carry the traditions and activities of the Detachment to future members and potential members.

Tri-Cities Detachment 337
2021 Spring Staff Report

The last meeting, we had 4 members and 2 associate members in the process of joining. We started planning on recruitment on how to get new members. Carrie Brennan and Sean Edler asked the question. What is our purpose and how do let other Marines know that we are around? Ideas were passed around along with having a rifle competition and BBQ plus maybe a golf tournament. Sean was going to call old members plus email them about when can they attend the next meeting. I Mike Ridgel will work on a social media campaign.

Michael T Ridgel
(509) 302-8793
Detachment Commandant 337

Twin Harbors Detachment 442
2021 Spring Staff Report

General Business:

Due to Covid 19 Pandemic Twin Harbors Detachment in person monthly meetings has been very limited but we were able to hold one luncheon meeting in Pacific County. Unfortunately, the opportunity to gather in groups within Pacific and Grays Harbor counties was very limited, changing day by day but when Governor's covid phases/rules allowed we took advantage of it.

We greatly enjoyed the ability to gather, observing all required safe practices.

an alternative to formal in person meetings has been to hold meetings via phone and email. As commandant I have been able to keep in contact with Detachment officers to discuss anything Detachment related and those discussions were shared with the whole Detachment via email as appropriate. While I would prefer holding Zoom meetings it was not of interest for the majority of Detachment members having no experience with such technology or are not computer equipped (most struggle to use email)

Due to the advanced age of our Marines the Detachment has agreed for health and safety reasons to limit our personal contact. So, with that in mind, I as Detachment commandant have phoned or email Detachment members to check in on them personally just do a health/welfare check of members. I have passed along to all members anything sent from our Dept. Commandant and from National in an effort to keep members up to date

Detachment Required Submissions: All Detachment, state and national requirements are up to date.

Membership: We have not increased our membership this quarter but more important we have not had any loss of membership. We continue to contact potential new members as we know of them.

Health and Welfare: Our Detachment currently has members who are suffering poor health or have had

recent surgeries, while most are on the mend a couple of our Korea War Marines are finding it a though go towards full recovery, our prayers are with them. Many of our Detachment marines, myself included have had their covid vaccination(s). We are keeping positive for better days ahead and we look forward to summer weather, less covid restrictions and improved life for all.

Respectfully,
Ron Black Sr.
Commandant

Twin Harbors Detachment 442
chaplainblack@centurytel.net
(360) 934-6400

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Olympia Detachment 482
2021 Spring Staff Report

Effective this date we have 31 Lifetime members, 15 Annual with 2 in arrears and not responding to emails. It was recently discovered that one had an incorrect email on the outgoing list. This has been corrected and I will reach out again to both. We have had two new members join and one of them applied for Lifetime membership.

We had a challenging but successful Toys for Tots season with delivered 33,935 toys and served 11,199 children in two counties; Thurston and Grays Harbor. I am unaware of our current count of toys carried over for next year, but it was not much.

We have yet to do our Annual Elections and will be doing those at the April meeting. We have had little or no contact with each other during the Pandemic, however we are working on ways to improve that to reach out to our Marines who are staying home to be safe and those who do not currently attend meetings. We are currently looking at changing our meeting dates to accommodate more members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Ickert

Paymaster/Adjutant

Olympia Detachment #482

**Pierce County Detachment 504
2021 Spring Staff Report**

The Pierce County Detachment currently has 48 life members, 1 dual member, and 21 annual members; 6 of them being in arrears who have indicated they will not renew; for a total of 69 paid members. We've had 1 member report to the Supreme Commandant.

The Detachment held a small gathering to celebrate the 245th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps

Another successful Toys for Tots season has come and gone, we delivered 43,214 toys, books and stocking stuffers to 51,020 children. We have 2,611 books, stocking stuffers and toys as carryover for next season.

Election and installation of Detachment Officer was completed in March 2021.

The Detachment presented nine Eagle Scout awards since the beginning of the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Edwards
Commandant

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**Olympic Peninsula Detachment 531
2021 Spring Staff Report**

April 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.
- The Department of Washington Spring Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- The Kitsap County Veterans Stand-down was cancelled due to COVID-19.

May 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- The Bremerton Armed Forces Day Parade was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

June 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- The Department of Washington State Convention was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

July 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.

- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

August 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

September 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

October 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.
- The Department of Washington Fall Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- The Kitsap County Veterans Stand-down was cancelled due to COVID-19. However, Detachment 531 did provide surplus items to the Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board. The Advisory Board did an individual outreach to homeless Veterans and provided confirmed homeless Veterans with some of those surplus items.

November 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.
- The Marine Corps Birthday celebration hosted by Detachment 531 at the Clearwater Casino was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- The Detachment's Marine Corps Birthday cake cutting ceremony at the Washington State Veterans Home in Port Orchard, WA was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Detachment 531 participated in planning meetings for the 2018 Toys for Tots Campaign for Kitsap and north Mason Counties.
- The Kitsap County Veterans Day Ceremony at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- The Holiday Fair held in the Kitsap Pavilion at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds was cancelled due to COVID-19.

December 2020

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531. New member, Gordon ("Jake") Jacobson, welcomed into the Detachment.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.
- Toys for Tots Campaign for Kitsap and north Mason Counties: Site preparation, toy sorting and decorating at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds.
- Associate Member Sandy Smith organized toy drives at the three Wal-Marts in Kitsap County.
- Toys for Tots Distribution Party for Kitsap County and north Mason County.

January 2021

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531. New member, Bruce Smith, welcomed into the Detachment.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

February 2021

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531. New member, Danielle Krezinski, welcomed into the Detachment. At large transfer, T.K. Lombard, was also welcomed into the Detachment.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.

March 2021

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531.
- Detachment 531 and 336 members performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery.
- The Silverdale Chamber of Commerce Military Appreciation Day was cancelled due to COVID-19.

April 2021

- The Detachment 531 Business Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- There was an informal meeting of some members of Detachment 531.
- Detachment 531 members attended the Department of Washington Spring Conference in Yakima.

2020 Toys for Tots Campaign Report:

- Mason County report:
 - 2,189 children served
 - 816 families served
 - 5,426 toys distributed
 - \$8,132 collected
 - \$5,723 expended
- Kitsap County report:
 - 2,567 children served
 - 863 families served
 - 18,265 toys distributed
 - \$15,518.50 collected
 - \$8,337.78 expended

Respectfully submitted,

Low Anne Harvey

Commandant, Olympic Peninsula Detachment 531

Detachment email: mcldet531@gmail.com

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**Melvin M. Smith Detachment 586
2021 Spring Staff Report**

With great pride and joy, I submit our Detachment’s activities since Oct 2020:

- Our Honor Guard continues to render honors for our Fallen Marines/Corpsmen as we can per Covid-19 restrictions. We continue to support “P” Battery with their firing details as their training schedule limits their availability at times.
- For the past five years, we have held a rifle raffle at the local gun shows with tremendous success. The next winning number is on hold due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

- The Spokane County Young Marines have been busy with online training throughout the Covid-19 Restrictions. They continue to grow and have events as they can.
- Some of our volunteers at the Mann/Grandstaff VA Hospital have been assisting as much as they can under current restrictions. Sadly, our monthly Bingo night is on permanent hold.
- Our Toys for Tots Campaign was a difficult and trying time for everyone involved. We took over 6,000 requests yet only had about 3,000 requests picked up due to various Covid problems. "P" Battery and our volunteers put in a lot of frustrating hours starting with finding a location. Thankfully, the White Elephant Family stepped up and made that happen.
- If all works out, we will see everyone in Spokane at the 74th Department of Washington Annual Convention at the Mirabeau Park Hotel from June 3-6, 2021. Registration is available online at the Department's website and on the back table for those who wish to register today.

This concludes our report of activities.

Semper Fi!

Commandant Kari Sobisky

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Columbia River Detachment 826
2021 Spring Staff Report

COVID SHUT DOWN CHALLENGE ACCEPTED AND WE OVECAME AND ADJUSTED.

From March 2020- October 2020 we maintained contact with our members via the telephones, emails, Facebook and our website keeping our members in the know with the information flow from our National and Department Commandants, all seemingly went well.

March to June in Phase I; Moved to Phase 2 in July Legion Post open for business.

- On 10 July our Board of trustees and Past Board mbrs came together appropriately masked and distanced @ the Cmndn'ts home to a presentation by 3 former L&CYM's SSgt's Baran, McClellan and Sgt Devier now USMC Veterans where we fully endorsed the Battle Ground Young Marine Unit and brought on 3 new Detachment members all younger than dirt.
- Our 1st face to face gathering was on 21 August since was to determine if we wanted to move our meetings from the Elks Lodge to the American Legion Smith-Reynolds Post 14, 4607 NE St James Rd.; We met outdoors on the patio and following a discussion about moving a motion was made to move and conduct our gatherings on the 3rd Friday of each month dinner 1700-1830, meeting @ 1830. 15 members present.
- 18 Sept 1st gathering following approved move to AL Post 14; 3 more new members. We donated \$300.00 towards supporting Veterans and families who were victims of recent fires in our AOR, 21 Members in attendance. 26 Sept. we conducted a successful fundraiser at a local car wash in conjunction with the VVA & Cadet Marines of WA.
- 16 October dinner meeting went well, brought in 3 more new members. 20 members in attendance; noted massive amount of emails being distributed out to the Dept. Cmndn'ts to be forwarded to the membership I

was forwarding all but then decided that I would only forward those emails with local action; also noted that most of the emails passed were from the Veterans Administration of which the members who are online could retrieve on their own if they had an interest.

- 15 January 2021 dinner meeting went well, whoops no new members? Our Detachment decided to move forward with a Golf Tournament fundraiser this year if and when the courses open up to that venue. 13 members in attendance. Our Adjutant attended a Suicide Prevention Webinar which provided positive information (see attachment)
- 19 February 2021 dinner meeting went well, 1 new member; 17 members in attendance. Working on another car was fundraiser for the Detachment and Young Marines Officer nominations were presented for 2021
- 19 March 2021 dinner meeting went well; We currently have 81 members, 33 paying dues and 48 PLM's; Passed out registration forms for our Department Convention

Summary

With a recent donation presented to the Detachment we were able to help out some Marines with the RS and Reserve center with a donation to help them through the Holidays in December and were able to also support Windhaven Equine Program and NW Battle Buddies (Dogs) PTSD Veteran Support.

Our Deputy VAVS Representative Rex Hopper maintained contact with the VAVS Portland/Vancouver assuring a positive transition from no volunteer service for over a year and now is working diligently to bring our volunteers back online providing services to the patients. In January the VA Hospital Vancouver Division began providing shots at 500 per day and the operation was well organized. All of our Cart Program volunteers have been vaccinated and we will be back up and running on 1 March. Our "Golf Cart Program" consisting of 4 golf carts w/volunteer drivers, registered nurse volunteers and the "Red Coat Ambassadors" (VA employees & volunteers greet Veterans, We will be bringing back the worker volunteers and activating the transportation network in the near future. Co-payments for medical care & pharmacy services provided by the Veterans Health Administration during the period of April 6th 2020 through September 30th 2021 are cancelled, any co-payments made during the stated time period will be refunded.

Our youth group, the Lewis & Clark Young Marines commanded by one of our members Veteran Marine Devin Lewis, continues to grow strong through the COVID virus issues, doing zoom meetings and most recently held a face to face recruit platoon 32021 graduation of 13 YM Recruits. They are still looking for a permanent home. They have 90 YM members and 30 adult staff; Due to the COVID restrictions the Battle Ground YM Unit has not launched into action as of this report.

We have representation with the Marine Corps Coordinating Council (MCCC) of Oregon and SW WA bringing all of our local Marine Corps organizations to include the I & I 6thESB, H&S Company 6thESB Marines, and our local Recruiting stations. With the COVID situation most of our Marine Corps related Veteran organizations have been on hold and are just now starting to come together again on a monthly basis.

We are engaged with the Community Military Action Committee which was formed to bring our civilian counterparts together with our military community in positive support of one another.

We are members of the Clark County Veterans Advisory Committee providing input to the County Councilors and guiding the delivery of county tax dollars established to support Veterans in need. Both of these organizations are up and running meeting via the zoom program.

Semper Fidelis

Lynn A Bolte,
Commandant
boltarmcl@aol.com
360-798-7530

**Mt. St. Helens Detachment 889
2021 Spring Staff Report**

No communication returned. No Report at this time.

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**Mount Olympus Detachment 897
2021 Spring Staff Report**

It goes without saying that the year 2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic will long be remembered. We are well into 2021 and it isn't over yet. We are however beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Vaccine is now available and being administered to the public. Perhaps soon, life as we once knew it, will begin to return to normal. This is being said in order to understand what this has meant for our Marine Corps League.

For the past year we have seen both Detachment and Department meetings canceled or held virtually. These virtual meetings are usually attended by elected and appointed officers. The membership must rely on written reports or newsletters in order to stay informed. What is missing is the comradery that we once enjoyed when we gathered for meetings or outings. With the attendance at this Staff Meeting perhaps we will see that light at the end of the tunnel begin to brighten.

For this past year our Detachment honor guard has been called upon on a number of occasions. On the last Friday of each month the honor guard attends a bell ringing ceremony at Veterans Park in Port Angeles and provides a rifle salute. The Veterans Day ceremony last November 11th was held outdoors at Pioneer Park in Sequim. The honor guard was called upon to provide a rifle salute. For the first time here on the Peninsula, Wreathes Across America was held December 19th at Sequim View Cemetery. More than 300 people were in attendance, over 600 wreaths were laid at veteran grave sites, and our honor guard was there with a rifle salute.

This past Christmas season our Toys for Tots campaign was again a great success. Despite being handicapped by not being allowed to collect toys at both Walmart stores due to Covid-19, we had to rely on cash donations in order to purchase those toys needed to fulfill children's wishes. The community responded with overwhelming generosity and over 3000 children experienced the joy of Christmas thanks to Toys for Tots.

Marine Don McIntyre was voted Detachment Marine of the Year for 2020. Don is also the recipient of the Clallam County Citizen of the Year Award. For over 50 years Don has put on his Santa suit at Christmas and gone out into the community and collected donations for Toys for Tots. Seventeen of

those years Don and his wife Sharlene have lived here in the area and Don has personally collected over \$65,000 for Toys for Tots.

Jeff McFarland is a member of the Detachment honor guard. His wife Jay also serves on the honor guard as bugler. Jay was voted 2020 Associate Member of the Year “for her outstanding support of Detachment activities while serving as a member of the Detachment honor guard”.

This concludes the report respectfully submitted by: Mark Schildknecht, Commandant

Mount Olympus Detachment 897

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Skagit Valley Detachment 1043
2021 Spring Staff Report

Nothing to report due to Covid-19 restrictions on meetings and events.

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Yakima-Kittitas Detachment 1055
2021 Spring Staff Report

Current Detachment strength is 21 regular members, 2 associate members, and 16 Life members.

All normal activities had been cancelled per directives from the Governor and MCL Headquarters. The annual Memorial Day parade, which Det. 1055 sponsors each year, did not take place.

However, the Detachment did sponsor and perform the annual Memorial Day ceremonies at Sarg Hubbard Park in Yakima and it was very well attended. This year members of the audience were asked to step to the mic and share stories of their family members who served. It was a moving experience for many and there was a great deal of appreciation for being offered a chance to share stories and memories of loved ones, some of whom paid the ultimate price for our nation. We may have started an annual tradition.

The Detachment marked the Marine Corps birthday on Nov. 9 with a potluck celebration open to all members and families along with members of Bravo Co. and the local recruiting staff. A good turnout and enjoyable evening. Marine Falter shared the Commandant’s Message for all Marines and the Detachment held a cake ceremony. Marine Richard O’Brien was the oldest Marine and Commandant Nick Myers was the youngest Marine present.

Military honors were provided for 3 funerals since March 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Falter

Adjutant

Det. 1055

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Cpl Joseph P. Bier Detachment 1119
2021 Spring Staff Report

The CPL Joseph P. Bier Detachment has been unable to do any Memorial Services since our last report. We are working on a Memorial Day service at the Grand Mound Cemetery in May 2021. We will be holding our elections on March 29, 2021 which is our first meeting since the latest shut down due to the COVID 19 virus. We are in hopes of continuing our 4th of July in the park booth for recruitment for the League this year.

Our MCL League Auxiliary will be joining the League as Associates as they have been depleted due to deaths and no new members this will probably be in April 2021. We were able to have 6 of us meet on November 10, 2020 for dinner for the Marine Corps Birthday and as tradition holds, we had reading of the Commandant's message and cutting of the cake with the Oldest Marine being George Schaeffer and the youngest Marine Jonathan Akers. It is the intent of the League to continue with our priorities of supporting our Marines and Veterans and their families locally and deployed.

We were able to continue our Toys for Tots program with reduced collection sites due to the restrictions and we were unable to collect in front of the Walmart as well. We still were able to provide to nearly 1000 children. I made two Saturdays to East Lewis county where the parents were not able to travel to the distribution sites due to transportation problems.

Lewis County Young Marines have also been continuing on a limited basis and the drills have been held as zoom meetings. We are looking at holding the first in person drills beginning with May 2021. Will hope to report more activities that have resumed in our June 2021 report.

Semper Fi,

Bonnie Holden
Commandant
Cpl Joseph P. Bier Det 1119

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Capt Daniel B. Bartle Detachment 1335
2021 Spring Staff Report

1. The American Legion – Post 7, Bellingham, WA 98266 is our home. Due to COVID restrictions we have been limited to ONE in person meeting. All other monthly meetings were conducted remotely using ZOOM.
2. We had an extremely successful Toys For Tots campaign which was a blessing as the need was greater than ever. We did not have a distribution center with direct contact with the children. Instead, we worked through agencies both in our area of Whatcom County and some of Skagit as we were informed, they were unable to mount a campaign. We also helped Pierce County MCL with a transfer of toys. Our numbers were as follows:

Toys distributed	7983
Books distributed	630
Stocking stuffers	3951

Donations collected locally and forwarded to TFT Foundation \$40,854.96

Total Amount spent on toys	\$34,272.66
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Other expenses	\$3,144.44
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Of note – Haggens Grocery did an end of sale donation campaign during the holidays and just after the first of the year we were given a check for \$30,000.00 for next year’s campaign.

3. Simon Gonzalez, a Vietnam Era Recon Marine and longtime TFT volunteer, passed away peacefully in his sleep o 11/20/20. A memorial brick was purchased in his honor and will be placed at a local cemetery called Green Acres where the Festival of Flags is held every Memorial Day.
4. In May we conducted a call down of all our members to ensure they were ok and able to have some level of human contact. We discovered that Paul Fontaine was in a bad way and living on subsistence in a homeless shelter. Working hand in hand with the American Legion we kept him fed and put gas in his vehicle as we worked to get him re-evaluated by the VA. We are able to report that the VA has classified him as 100% disabled and not only increased his monetary benefit but also made it retroactive. Through the Whatcom County Veterans Council, he is in an efficiency apartment and has found work.

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**Col Richard Francisco Detachment 1451
2021 Spring Staff Report**

Covid has kept our group at a distance for the past year. All our parades and fund-raising events were cancelled. We did have a successful Toys for Tots campaign this year. We distributed 2572 toys, 395 books and 802 stocking stuffers. We purchased 30 bicycles to give to the kids also. We helped 395 children on the south end of the Island.

We are looking forward to getting back into a normal meeting schedule and getting back to business this year.

Bob Gabelein

Commandant

1451

=====
**Americanism
Bonnie Holden**

Americanism Award is in the <https://www.mclnational.org> Website in the Library. Currently it is only showing the instructions and the cover sheet for the 2021 competition. I am in hopes they will add the rest of the pages in the near future. In the meantime the pages are attached to this report. Follow the directions precisely as they will take points off for anything that is not according to the rules. The books need to be handed in by 1500 on Tuesday of the National Convention and are available for pickup after the awards are given. I will be going to National Convention this year and anyone that cannot attend can get the book to me during the Department of Washington Convention and I will hand carry to the Convention. Any questions on the awards or rules I can be contacted at 36-339-3446 or by email bonnie.holden@hotmail.com.

Semper Fi

Bonnie Holden
Jr Past Commandant
April 1, 2021

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**Audit
Bill Hauser**

Not Applicable at this time.

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**Awards
Randy Ott**

Unit Award worksheets were sent to all Detachments in hopes to recognize the work being done regardless of the Covid restrictions. We know that help and service come in many forms. Our unit awards for 2020 will be included in the 2021 recognitions.

A reminder to all Detachments that your members are eligible for many MCL individual awards for their work at the discretion of the Commandant. Currently, Department level awards are available if requested by the Detachment. Follow the Awards checklist/application for approval.

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**Boy Scout Awards
Bonnie Holden**

There are embossed awards that can be purchased at the Semper Fi store for this purpose. I will be heading this committee beginning this year. I need each Detachment to designate a contact for this purpose. I also need to make a Division report as well as the Department report. 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. **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 each 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 is at the end of this report.

Semper Fi

Bonnie Holden
360-339-3446
bonnie.holden@hotmail.com
17823 Gilbert St SE Tenino WA 98589
April 1, 2021

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Budget and Finance
Bill Hauser

Not Applicable at this time.

=====
Bylaws
Shane Inman

Not Applicable at this time.

=====
Convention
Commandant

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as can make it to Spokane in June for the 2021 Department Convention. Thank you, Spokane for stepping up two years in a row to be ready to host this great event. I'm quite sure 2020 would have been a great time and success if Covid-19 hadn't ruined the entire year.

That means we need a Detachment to step up for next year's convention. This is the big one! We've been a Department for 75 years. National MCL allows Departments to create a special ribbon/medal for these occasions. We are in the process of getting that approved so that it is ready next June. There is a little time for your Detachment to think about this chance of a lifetime, but don't wait too long. The Department would love to have someone volunteer at June's Convention or at the latest October's Fall Staff meeting.

The guidelines are in the Department Bylaws as to how you can resolve to be the host Detachment.

Thanks in advance,
For the Commandant, Randy Ott, Adjutant

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Credentials
Bill Hauser

Not Applicable at this time.

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Detachment Commandants Council
John Moysiuk

Not Applicable at this time.
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Homeless Veterans
John Moysiuk

During the past year plus, there has been a significant number of changes that have been happening with our veteran population here in Washington State. Due to the pandemic, reduction of the workforce due to restrictions from our Governor, and a much longer time of unease, veterans have lost their jobs or had them put on hold. Since Unemployment Benefits have taken such a long time to process, and the social services locally to all areas of the state have been heavily overburdened, veterans have become increasingly displaced from their stable living environments. This has caused an increase in homelessness in the veteran population. Homelessness is defined by the area or municipality of where one lives. Living on the streets, in the woods, in a park or in a vehicle constitutes a condition of homeless as well as living with someone else such as the term "couch surfing" is viewed as being homeless. Every program that addresses the homeless population has their own version but homeless is still being homeless.

Since reporting as a homeless representative, I have continued to be an advocate for our veterans that currently experiencing homelessness. I feel the information that is being distributed on the many media platforms does assist us in the informational flow and when reporting for this subject I have concluded there are more platforms delivering this information for all of us and thus I do not want to become a person that just goes thru the motions and repeats what is already being said.

I recommend to the Department Commandant that this position be dissolved at this time. With this, I am officially stepping down from this position effective immediately at the end of this Spring Staff Meeting

Semper Fidelis John "Moose" Moysiuk moysiukjl@hotmail.com 360-584-8373

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**Legislative
Shane Inman**

The Veterans Legislative Coalition (VLC) is a due paying, membership based non-profit organization. The VLC is comprised of representatives from the 16 Veteran Service Organizations (VSO's) currently represented, members at large, and all Veterans of Washington State.

Our primary mission is to review all bills in either the House or the Senate, seeking clarifying guidance from the Washington State VA representative, and having substantial inferences related to veterans and their families. Then as a group we decide how to respond. Examples include:

- Letters to the bill creator in support or possible amendments to the bill by the chairman on behalf of the VLC.
- Appearing in person (zoom during covid times)
- or just signing in support on the legislative website.

The VLC during the legislative session organize into fire teams to facilitate the load of bills to either sign in to support or testify with a statement before the committees. I proudly serve as one of the fire team leaders.

As the representative of the Marine Corps League in the VLC it is my pleasure to report that the I personally either testified or signed in for the following thirteen bills on one or more occasion:

- Senate Bills, 5032, 5167, 5197, 5337
- House Bills, 1181, 1247, 1248, 1250, 1314, 1357, 1438, 2411 and 2542.

There are many other bills (I have not received a current update from the chairman as of this correspondence) that have been brought to the house and senate floor during the session so far and as I type this more are being vetted.

My experience with the Senators and Representatives so far has been supportive and understanding. They as well as the VLC strives to do the best for our veterans.

This completes my report as written.

Semper Fidelis
Shane Inman
Judge Advocate
VLC Committee Chairman
Department of Washington
slinman87@gmail.com

=====

**Marine for Life
Mark Gorman**

Our Washington M4L has been doing one on one resume and interview coaching. The Marine support group has been assisting Marine with college tuition.

As for me and my team, we have been working with vet tech and VR & E and have placed 117 veterans in careers.

Mark Gorman

=====
**Marine of the Year Society
John Moysiuk**

This past year has been one for the history books and has caused too much turmoil in our lives due to this pandemic. The MOY selection was postponed due to meeting restrictions placed upon us by our Governor which cancelled our Spring Staff Muster in April, Convention in June and Fall Staff Muster in October 2020. Through this time the MOY Society decided it best to delay but further selected the candidates and ultimately selected the Marine for 2020. This was not done in person but was completed virtually and the MOY for 2020 will be presented at this Spring Staff Meeting in Yakima. The expectations for selecting the candidates for the MOY 2021 is expected to take place as anticipated with receiving MOY candidates at the Spring Staff Muster and the candidate selected will be awarded at the Spokane Convention in June.

Nothing else to report.

John "Moose" Moysiuk

moysiukjl@hotmail.com

360-584-8373

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**Membership
Bill Hauser**

Not Applicable at this time.

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**Newsletter
Charles Ames**

As Washington Department Public Affairs Officer...

- have distributed two newsletters in the last 12 months, another forthcoming.
- have conducted outreach to create Detachment PAOs.
- edit monthly Veteran's benefits column for TheSuburbanTimes.com

Charles Ames
WA Dept. PIO
(253)304.4415

=====

**Nominations
Bonnie Holden**

Nothing to report at this time due to holding elections in September. We will look into our options at the June Convention.

=====

**Past Department Commandants Council
Bonnie Holden**

Nothing to report at this time. Should have more at the June Convention.

=====

**Public Relations Officer
Charles Ames**

As Washington Department Public Affairs Officer...

- have distributed two newsletters in the last 12 months, another forthcoming.
- have conducted outreach to create Detachment PAOs.
- edit monthly Veteran's benefits column for TheSuburbanTimes.com

Charles Ames
WA Dept. PIO
(253)304.4415

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**Resolutions
Dennis Dressler**

Not Applicable at this time.

=====
**Rock 32 Ceremony
Commandant**

I would also like to extend a Thank You to all that attended the "The Rock Ceremony" on August 29, 2020. Since it was not able to be publicized due to the virus, there were only a few of us there. We honored each and every Marine that perished in the plane crash. The Pierce County Det. 504 organized and carried out the memorial service. The cost of the Mt. Rainier Memorial Service is paid for by the Pierce County Det. 504 each year. Several years ago, we asked that each Detachment donate what they could to defray the cost to Detachment 504 each year. I ask that we continue this and the donations can be sent directly to Pierce County Det. 504 with Rock Ceremony in the memo as this money is earmarked for that purpose. It can also be sent the same way to the Department of Washington which will get the money to the Detachment 504.

Thank you to Steve Paris, George Hilbish II, Mark Gorman, John Moysiuk, Jim Golden and Charles Ames for making this a priority to remember our "Rock 34".

Semper Fi

Bonnie Holden
Jr. Past Commandant
Dept of Washington

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**Rules
Shane Inman**

Nothing to report at this time. Should have more at the June Convention.

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**Toys for Tots
LouAnne Harrey**

Detachment	Det. #	County	Reserve Center	LCA	Total Families served	Total Kids Served	Toy Request	Toy orders filled	Monetary donations collected	Monetary Spent	Noteworthy event(s) participated in or sponsored by Detachment
Puget Sound	336	King	Yes								
Tri-City	337										
Twin Harbor	442										
Olympia	482	Thurston									
Pierce County	504	Pierce				43,214		51,026			
Olympia Peninsula	531	Kitsap	None	Jason Selby	863	2567		18,265	15518.5	8337.78	
Olympia Peninsula	531	Mason	None	Heather Kennedy		3005	5426	21824	654	5723.76	
Melvin M Smith	586					9215	5538	3294		50,000.00	2244 order families did not pick up toys
Mount St Helena	889										
Mt Olympus	897										
Yakima Kittitas Valley	1055										
Cpl Joseph P Bier	1119	Lewis			350	700			8132	12,000.00	
Capt. Daniel B. Bartle	1335	Whatcom						7963	40854.96	34272.66	

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**Training Officer
Don Nilson**

Nothing to report as Department Training Officer.
Don Nilson
Detachment 1451

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VAAC Representative
Larry Alcantara replaced by Ron Black Dec 2020

VAAC Strategic Planning 2020

- *January 9, 2020*, VAAC Strategic Planning meeting - VAAC assessed correlation between WDVA Way document (policies) and veteran needs. Appeared to be in alignment.
- We discussed performance measures, established 6 measurable goals
- Veterans Home Liaisons designated three volunteer and proposed fourth given proximity to Walla Walla.
- 2020 Town Hall Meetings were scheduled:

April: Friday Harbor/Port Townsend

Mid-May: Clarkston

June: Ellensburg/Yakima

June: VAAC Strategic Meeting:

Sept: Cle Elum/Wenatchee:

Sept: Commanders Call:

October: Marysville

- Stressed the importance of participation in VAAC events and Town Halls.
- Another form of participation is the passing of information back to service organizations.
- A motion was made to extend the VAAC Chair and Vice Chair terms from one year to two years. The purpose of this motion was to allow the Chair and Vice Chair to have more time to accomplish VAAC objectives and mission. Motion was carried with a unanimous vote to extend these terms. Larry will serve one more year as the VAAC Chair with Bob Wallace also serving an additional year as Vice Chair. New VAAC Chairs will be sworn in January 2021.

COVID-19 Emergence

On *March 15, 2020*, WDVA and VAAC agreed scheduled Town Halls for April and May be cancelled pending pandemic developments and immediately consideration of converting to a virtual town hall was launched.

We deployed a Continuous Improvement methodology including the steps to identify goal, analyze data, develop action plan, and implement. Based on the results, decide whether to abandon, modify, or implement the solution.

Quickly, it was clear that in order to accomplish the VAAC mission to connect veterans and their families to benefits they have earned and advise the Governor and Director on policy correlation between needs and programming, that public town halls required conversion to a virtual platform.

On *April 29, 2020*, The VAAC held a virtual meeting (skype) and developed a conversion process from public to virtual town hall, consisting of:

- Statewide Veteran Needs Survey – develop and distribute (*May/June*)
- Develop Virtual Town Hall methodology based on survey needs analysis, and best practices (Women's Veterans Advisory Committee single topic model selected)
- Moved from 5-6 benefits topic presentation (traditional town hall format) to 1-2 topics format to compensate for technology environment

- First Virtual Town Hall featuring “Veterans Benefit 101” was held *July 29, 2020* using the “Go to Webinar” platform. 90 registrations resulted in 40 participants.
- The after-action analysis showed the “Go to Webinar” platform was difficult to use and may have lost part of our targeted audience. Recommended new platform be selected, Zoom or Microsoft Teams platforms.
- Other critiques recommended improvements where the presenter be visually up close and injecting a conversational tone with anecdotal stories to underscore slide message.
- Based on the overwhelming participants questions regarding “Claims”, in conjunction with initial survey results, we determined a series of virtual town halls explore the claims topic in depth starting with Claims, Notice of Disagreement (NOD) and finally a future appeals session.
-

On *October 21, 2020*, the VAAC hosted a Virtual Town Hall featuring “VA Claims” featuring the Director of the Seattle Regional Office and his staff. We moved to a new platform with Zoom. We engaged 74 participants, nearly double that of a traditional public town hall! The technology platform worked well, the subject matter experts made an outstanding presentation, and the Q & A was highly participatory and engaging. The one negative was the session was hacked at the start, before our presenters, with an assault of obscene and high-volume noise. The WDVA IT host quickly corrected the intrusion. We need to explore technology remedy to prevent future hacking.

Our next virtual town hall will feature “Appeals” as the topic with an Appeals board expert as presenter.

Recommendation

It is the VAAC’s recommendation that rural area connectivity be created. Clearly access to VA Telehealth appointments are here now, and more support services are moving to virtual access. VAAC appropriately targets rural areas where access to veteran benefits support is not easily accessed. Similarly, while connectivity in rural areas may exist there remains a digital gap between urban and rural areas as *rural residents often lack broadband or smart phones*.

Summary

The COVID-19 emergence has challenged the VAAC to be flexible and innovative. The VAAC member responded in a timely and meaningful way. We are committed to continuous improvement as new challenges are turned into opportunities to improvise, adapt, and overcome.

The change from public to virtual town *halls expanded our reach* from a rural location to a statewide event. Our *participant levels have increased* and moving from a broad range of benefits topics to a single topic allowing for a *deep dive has noticeably increased participant interaction*.

In sum, the VAAC successfully achieved its mission in a timely and creative manner. We look forward to continuing to serve our 600,000 veteran and 2 million family members to improve their quality of life through timely and accessible outreach.

(Reading time - 6:15 minutes)

11:30 A.M., Monday, November 2, 2020

- Strategic repositioning to increase town halls and Veterans Home inclusion within existing resources.
- March 2020 Pivot to Virtual Town Halls due to COVID emergence
- 1-2 topics format to compensate for technology environment.
- July 2020 “Veterans Benefit 101”, 90 registrations resulted in 40 participants.
- Determined a series of virtual town halls explore the claims topic in depth.
- October 2020 “VA Claims” engaged 74 participants.
- VAAC is modeling the way when it comes to Veterans and Families celebrating Veterans Day safely.
- The VAAC collectively determined that they would not participate in the modified Auburn Veterans Day Parade.
- October 2020 Annual Outstanding Service to Veterans Award Virtual ceremony. The video created from this ceremony will be showcased during the virtual Auburn Veterans Day Celebration, November 8th
- VAAC encourages Veterans and Families to celebrate Veterans Day safely by participating in virtual events.
- **PROS**
- Virtual town halls increased access from local rural targets to statewide event,
- Increased access by technology v ground transportation (work, home, recreation)
- Participant levels have increased.
- VSO’s hosted multiple participants in their facilities
- Single topic v multiple topics allows deep dive.
- Increased participant interaction
- Travel Budget savings
- **CONS**
- Loss of technology challenged veterans, often most vulnerable.
- Loss of human interaction and bonding
- Connectivity in rural areas
- **COVID BASED CONCERNS**
- Connectivity
- Mental Health
- VSO Activities and Non-traditional enterprise

Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee (VAAC) WDVA Activity Report
for first quarter January, February and March 2021

Submitted by Ron Black Sr. (VAAC) for Dept of WA. Marine Corps League
Spring Meeting Yakima WA. April 2021

Due to Covid 19 restrictions all VAAC business, WA. Department of Veterans Affairs and Town Hall Meetings were held using internet group meeting protocols.

January 2021

The VAAC and the Washington Dept. of Veteran affairs /WDVA discussed the previous year's goals and accomplishments. It was acknowledged that covid-19 presented challenges for the VA, WDVA and agencies that serve and support veterans. Even with the challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic, it was agreed that much was accomplished in 2020 here in Washington State and Federally in support of our Veteran and active-duty service members.

The VAAC, WDVA, State and Federal Veteran Services, Puget Sound Veterans Health Care System, veterans Legislative committee, Post Service Veterans groups and others often work hand in hand with same / similar goals, The VAAC seeks to identify some of those common areas and provide support where possible in yr. 2021. The Women Veterans Advisory Committee (WVAC) is working to set their 2021 agenda, the VAAC committee wants to support the WVAC to the extent possible as goals often overlap and by keeping each other informed we believe will be of benefit as we have more opportunity to share beneficial information, contacts and resources that would assist in achieving goals, the ultimate goal being service to all veterans and veteran families.

2021 is a 24/7 work in progress as we continue to build on what has been accomplished and re- address some of the more life effecting issues facing veterans, examples: homeless veterans, veteran healthcare, home bound and senior veterans, special needs , addiction, and veteran outreach just to name a few.

In Person Town Hall meetings is one of the important outreach programs of the WDVA/VAAC. It allows us to meet one on one with veterans, veteran families, veterans service organizations supporting local state and federal agencies etc. where they live. The current Covid Pandemic group gathering restrictions do not allow us to hold in person town hall meetings but should restrictions ease, we will be ready, until that time arrives online Town Hall meetings is the current method of bringing us all together.

Other business January 2021:

Information regarding the construction of Veteran Mini Home Villages that have been built or are in the planning/ building phase was presented to the VAAC. These mini homes are not built as temporary transit housing but are permanent living housing with self-contained bath facilities. It The veteran can choose to live in this home for as long as they wish or are able and all housing rules must be complied with.

The housing is overseen by a live on premises veteran caretaker of sorts and there is a housing committee to address concerns, issues and rule violations.

It is my understanding that the study and permit process required for building these veteran villages is the same required by city, county and state for any home type construction and can take many months from beginning of process to final completion/ village opening. The land and location are keys to success. Where built, veteran mini home villages have proven to be a community asset

February 2021

A Virtual Town Hall meeting was presented by the Veteran South Puget Sound Health Care System. This was open to many agencies and organizations and was an information meeting regarding all areas of veteran medical with a open Q and A to follow.

More than a half dozen VA medical directors representing key departments providing veteran health care services at all state VA Veteran Hospitals, CBOC's, Veteran retirement home medical services, community based referral medical , health services for home bound veterans who are approved for caretaker services , homeless veterans medical outreach , Mental Health, addiction, Healthcare needs

specific to women veterans. More recent concerns such as Covid Testing, Vaccination procedures were discussed.

One of the first subjects discussed was ability of veterans to phone the VA regarding community care referral, there was acknowledgment that the ability for a veteran or medical provider to contact someone regarding community based medical services which include dental and optical was not at the level it should be, the reason given was issues with the phone system.

Covid-19 has created a slowdown and back log for some community care authorization request. Medical providers and facility capacity limits does affect the time required to approve and schedule community-based care referrals.

Also discussed was the closing of some CBOC's and the opening or planned opening of new CBOC's such as the one in Olympia WA. CBOC's are a hot topic and the area where CBOC's are operated is based on many considering factors, one of which is how to reach and help the most veterans possible. Rural area veterans were discussed regarding a lack of medical resources in smaller communities, as expected Covid-19 caused the mobile medical units to discontinue service to areas such as Pacific County, Grays Harbor County and others. Veterans in rural areas with limited medical options rely on these mobile services for basic health care visits. The director in charge of community care mobile medical units stated that they hope to return these services as possible even if on a more limited bases, the health and safety of the medical services workers and veterans is of utmost concern, Covid 19 guidelines are being reviewed daily.

March 2021

WA. Dept of Veterans Affairs and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee held a joint information Town Hall Meeting with the WA. Women's Advisory Committee.

The mission of the Women Veterans Advisory Committee (WVAC) shall be to ensure that Washington's women veterans have equitable access to federal and state veterans' services and benefits.

The program shall provide assistance to women who served in the United States Armed Forces or in forces incorporated as part of the United States Armed Forces.

The WDVA / Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee shares common goals with the WDVA / WVAC, it was discussed how each committee might be able to provide some level of support to the other as many veteran support goals are common to both committees. More discussion will follow as both the VAAC and WVAC continue to touch base with each other.

While Covid – 19 has definitely impacted our day to day lives, it is good to know that as veterans ourselves and for our veteran community there are people who truly care about all veterans and veteran families and want to provide the very best services and assistance possible.

The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs continues to be a strong voice and proponent for all things and services related to veterans at the Federal, State and Local level.

Without the commitment and hard work given by the the WDVA and all who work and volunteer there in support for our common cause, (veterans and families) the day to day life for disabled veterans and all veterans in Washington State who use veterans programs and services would be far less supported and far less available. Many of us still remember how little to no veteran services of any kind existed at the Federal, State and Community level during the Vietnam, Korean and WWII War era.

Much of the change that has occurred in the past 30 plus years are partly due to the hard work of Community Veterans Service Organizations. The Dept. of Washington Marine Corps League, the many WA. Detachments and the MCL National has continued and will continue to be in support of and a voice for veterans, active duty and veteran families for as long as their presence is needed.

It should be noted that some veteran service organizations who qualify to have a member on the committee for whatever reason do not have an appointed representative on the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee, WA. The Dept. of WA. MCL Has always been represented which is a statement in support of the value and necessity of having a presence for Marines and veteran families living in WA. State **Recommendation:**

It is my recommendation that past VAAC member Larry Alcantara be recognized at no less than the Dept. of WA. MCL Level for his selfless volunteer service as a Governor Jay Inslee appointed member of the WA. Dept. of Veterans Affairs / **Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee**. Larry Alcantara has represented the Dept. of WA. Marine Corps League with his voice and leadership proving by his work to be a valuable asset to Marine Veterans, Marine Active Duty, Marine Reserve, All US Veterans and Veteran Families in WA. State. He has served honorably and with distinction. While the past year has required that the VAAC conduct virtual meetings, this has in no way limited the goals and good work accomplished by the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee or the presence and leadership given by Larry Alcantara / MCL

It should be noted that 2020 has been an uncommon year with exceptional circumstances and many challenges. It is in part the responsibility of the VAAC to report to the WDVA and to Governor Inslee all committee goals set, committee achievements, veteran issues / concerns know and to give Input on what is working and what is not and to set new goals and provide future recommendations for the new year.

Prior to the Covid restrictions 2020, Larry Alcantara has been an active participant and provided leadership at VAAC meetings in Olympia WA. Been present at community-based Town Hall meetings and has prepared the committee arrival in the community by arrainging for a place to meet in the town, contact veterans service organizations, to contact local media of the Veteran Town Hall meeting and other related responsibility as requested by the WDVA director. The level of volunteer commitment is not always easy depending on the veteran's town hall meeting location, resources available etc. Larry Alcantara has spent many nights in hotel rooms and traveled countless miles across the state attending these town hall meetings as a Dept. of WA. Marine Corps League representative and VAAC member.

It is my recommendation that recognition appropriate should be given Marine Larry for his commitment and achievements in support of WA. Marines, all Veterans and families, the disabled, seniors, home bound and homeless veterans and others who rely on people like Larry to be their voice and support.
End of Quarterly Report

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronald E Black Sr.

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**VAVS (VA Volunteer Services)
Rex Hopper**

I have not received reports from the other two Veterans Administration Health Care Centers in the State of Washington. Therefore, I do not have updates on their VAVS activities.

The Portland/Vancouver VAVS activities have been shut down since the 16th of March 2020. During that time there have been no volunteers working at either of the Centers. One exception has been the partitioning of the four Shuttle Carts in Vancouver which were outfitted with isinglass partitions separating the driver and each passenger to the covid-19 protocol requirements. The work was begun in early June and completed in Nov. The work was completed by the Golf cart vendor supported on campus by the Volunteer Cart program coordinator and his deputy with limited presents on campus and observing all covid-19 protocol requirements.

The Vancouver Shuttle Cart program was started up again on March 1, 2021. Voluntary services will gradually bring back other activities as they are able while still observing covid-19 safety requirements.

There has been an announcement by the Director of Voluntary Services that due to the passage of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, co-payments for medical care and pharmacy services by the Veterans Health Administration during the period of April 6, 2020 through Sept. 30, 2021, **all will be canceled.** All those co-payments that have been paid to the VA for medical care and prescriptions for the period 4/6/2020 to the present will be refunded.

Reported in the Portland April Newsletter, the Voluntary Service Department will be changing its name from VAVS to CDCE (Center for Development & Civic Engagement). The Center for Development and Civic Engagement was part of the original Office of Communications, formed in 1998. The Program Office was realigned to Assistant Under Secretary for Health Operations (AUSHO) to more accurately reflect the scopes of its services. The Center for Development and Civic Engagement's mission is to strategically integrate volunteers, donations and community partners into Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of supplementing staff and increasing care and services for veterans.

I asked how this change would affect the National and local service organizations VAVS designation. I have not received an answer as of this date.

All Vets Health Administration Clinics are currently offering covid-19 shots to all veterans who are signed up. You need to call your caretaker for an appointment.

End of report sir.....

Rex Hopper

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**Veterans Service Officer
Vacant**

LouAnne Harrey has been trying to become our service officer with no luck.

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**Web Sergeant
Bill Hauser**

The Department website is located at <https://www.mcldeptwa.org/>.

In the period February 14 to March 15, 2021, we had 35 Unique Visitors with 139 page views. The average visitor time on the website was 2 minutes and 48 seconds.

On the Department Website you can find information about Current Officers and their email addresses, Detachment's meeting times and locations and their Officers. Also, a calendar of Upcoming events is available. Information is available on the Devil Dogs, the Pack Officers, Pounds and Pound Officers. Standing Committees, Recruitment and Retention, Fleas, and Auxiliary information is also available.

Semper Fidelis,

Bill Hauser
Web Sergeant
Department of Washington
bhauser1952@msn.com
(360) 608-6672

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**Young Marines Liaison
Ed Falter**

Lewis County Young Marines

Semper Fidelis,

I am the Judge Advocate of the Joseph P Bier Detachment #1119 Centralia, WA.

I am also the Unit Commander of the Lewis County Young Marines.

Our YM unit has a strength of 8 Young Marines with 2 new prospects. We did have 3 YMs from one family who decided to not participate in the program any further.

We have been limited to online meetings only by order of the Gov. Unfortunately, most of my parents do not want their kids to do online meetings. As a result, I only have 3 YMs who attend online meetings.

I am hoping to resume in person meetings in May this year. Barring any unforeseen event that will preclude us from doing so. When we restart meetings we will only be meeting for 4 hours on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month. We had normally held meetings for 8 hours on the same dates.

Unfortunately, I had to fire my XO because he refuses to wear a mask.

I hope this answers your need for information. If you need more just let me know what you need.

Semper Fidelis,
GySgt Ken Norwood Retired
Unit Commander

Seattle Young Marines

I am the current unit commander for the Seattle Young Marines. I took over a little over a year ago when our last person completely stepped away from the group due to work obligations. We currently have 15 Young Marines ranging from 8 to 17, 11 boys and 4 girls. We had been at only 5 Kids a year ago and just recently have had quite a few kids and parents come check us out and they liked what they have seen and joined.

We went on hiatus in March of 2020 due to the pandemic but we made the decision to start meeting as a group again September 2020. We were meeting outside at the Redmond VFW as we were not allowed to meet indoors due to their policies with the pandemic. In January we were able to move our meetings indoors to the American Legion in Kent thanks to our new training officer that's a member there and the American Legion has graciously allowed us to use their very large meeting space twice a month. We are currently meeting every other Sunday for three and a half hours to work on our standard guidebook stuff.

We are struggling tremendously to find community service opportunities with all that is going on. We lost all our hours last year with everything being shut down, i.e., Toys for Tots drive, MC birthday, VFW picnics, and special ceremonies we usually help out the Marine Corps League with. With that said we are open to helping out and definitely working with the Marine Corp League with any ceremonies, parades, and other activities that you all will hopefully be doing this year.

We are also currently on the hunt for a training officer as our current parent is going back into the Marine Corp in June and they are being transferred to Georgia for at least a year. **I don't have a military background and struggle with drill and marching. If you know of anyone and or can put the word out to your members that we would love their experience and knowledge when it comes to the military background, to come help us teach these kids we would greatly appreciate it.** I hope this has answered the questions you asked and I do hope we can work together much more this year. Please keep us in mind and stay in touch.

Best Regards,
Jennifer Griep
UC Seattle Young Marines
425-337-5993

Tri-Cities Young Marines

Here at the Tri-City Young Marines, we were completely shut down last year because of covid. Our last meeting was March 12, 2020. We did have a couple of special color guard details where I kept the group to 4 YM's and we also had several Zoom meetings to complete some of our drug demand reduction requirements. As for regular meetings, we had none. That's a long time to go and still keep a unit together.

However, last Saturday, March 20th, 2021 we had our first regular meeting in over a year. We consulted with the local health dept. and structured our environment to reduce the risk of any virus transmission.

Right now, we have 27 Young Marines on the books. However, that number may be off as we get going again. By next month I should know the exact number that is still with us. Our re-registration process takes place in August of each year and last year we really took a hit from those that did not re-register. However, we will rebuild our ranks and be up to near 40 YM's as soon as we can plan a boot camp.

Carry on!
J.L. Carlyle
Unit Commander,
Tri-City Young Marines

Here is a list of the Young Marine Units we support in Washington:

Columbia River
Tri-Cities Elks Lodge
15 S. Colorado St.
Kennewick, WA 99336

<https://youngmarines.com/unit/columbiariver/page>

Tri-City
Columbia Park
6007 Columbia Park Trail
Kennewick, WA 99336

<https://youngmarines.com/unit/tricity/page>

Seattle
4330 148th Ave. N.E.
Redmond, WA 98052

<https://youngmarines.com/unit/seattle/page>

Lewis County
Winlock Community Center
607 NW Kerron St.
Winlock, WA 98596

<https://youngmarines.com/unit/lewiscounty/page>

Lewis & Clark
11605 SE McGillivray Blvd.
Vancouver, WA 98683

<https://youngmarines.com/unit/lewisandclark/page>

Spokane County
VFW Post 1435
212 S. David St.
Spokane Valley, WA 99213

<https://youngmarines.com/unit/spokanecounty/page>



End of April's Department Spring Staff Minutes