

**Department of Washington Marine Corps League  
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION AGENDA 8-11 JUNE 2023**

**1300 9 June Joint Opening Ceremony:  
Dept. Cmndn't" Introduce Commandant of the Host Detachment.**

**Recognition of Department of Washington 2022 Marine of the Year:** George Hilbish. (Absent)

**Recognition of National Officers:** NWDVC John Moysiuk, Nat'l. M4L rep Mark Gorman, NWD Vice Chief Devil Dog PDD Bonnie Holden.

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

**Recognition of Recipients of Department Marine of the Year:** 1998- John F. Stofiel, 2004 Dennis Dressler, 2014 Bonnie Holden, 2015 John. Moysiuk, and 2016 Mark Schildknecht.

**Recognition of Past Department Commandants:** Please stand to be recognized. Dennis Dressler, John Stofiel, and Bonnie Holden.

**Recognition of "First Timers" to Department Convention:** Jim Daly-442, Karen Oakes-531, Dana Miller-531, Tim Newbill-531, Dakota Tew-482.

**Recognition of MCLA and Officers:** President Vickie Brown recognized her Officers and recognized Past Presidents Sam Dressler and Paulette Stofiel.

**Commandant calls for 10 Minute Recess:** Chaplain closes the Bible. Sgt-at Arms will lead the mbrshp in a hand salute to the Colors and declare the meeting in recess and excuse the Auxiliary members.

**Commandant reconvenes business meeting:**

Sgt-at-Arms lead the assembly in a hand salute to the Colors. Chaplain will reopen the Bible. Sgt-at-Arms will declare the meeting duly reopened for the conduct of official business.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**CMNDN'T - CALLS FOR ADJUTANT REPORTS –**

- **Roll Call of Officers:** Cmndn't John Moysiuk, Judge Advocate Joel Cartwright-
- **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. Motion by Dennis Dressler, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ric Flath, carried.
- **WASHINGTON SECRETARY OF STATE FILING: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE 990: PAID LIFE MEMBER (PLM JULY 2023) REPORT OF INSTALLATION OFFICERS: All reports are in, and communication is good.**

**PAYMASTER REPORT: Rick Flath –** Account Balances as of date of this report

Checking: \$3,945.25 (with 1 outstanding check \$50.00)

Savings: \$14,586.43 (with \$375.00 for Rock 32 ceremony donations and \$483.00 remaining for Commandant travel fund.) Travel Fund: Commandants travel has not received donations for three years from the detachments since the 2019 Fall staff meeting when it was approved, and four detachments initially donated. Due to the increase in Life membership fees, we seen many members from various Detachment apply for Life Membership in month of April, May, and June 2023. Starting July 1st new rates are:

- 35 years of age and lower - \$1000.00                      36-50 years of age - \$800.00
- 51-64 years of age - \$600.00                              65-84 years of age - \$400.00
- 85 years of age and higher - \$100.00

The next detachment rosters from National is slated for July, which is used for the annual PLM (Paid Life Member) audit. As in the past you will need to check it against your files and make any changes to the roster. Once completed, it must be signed by the Detachment Commandant and Paymaster and returned to the Department Paymaster by email prior to the Fall Staff meeting at the beginning of October. Also, in support of transparency, between Detachments, Department and National please ensure that you add National to the to...line of the email [jfoster@mcleague.org](mailto:jfoster@mcleague.org) and me [Rflath1@comcast.net](mailto:Rflath1@comcast.net) from department. This way we have electronic record trail of the PLM being submitted that you can save. As a reminder, Commandants and Paymasters 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. Also, be sure to use the Official Transmittal form dated @2021 for transactions with National, and please Do NOT send DD214s as they are not needed at the National or Department levels. 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. Also, it would appreciate it if the detachment paymasters filled in Department Paymaster name (Rick Flath), email (rflath1@comcast.net) and phone# (612.819.3668) when submitting the transmittal. Dues for new member applications are \$25.00 to National and \$5.00 to the Department except during the period March 1st to June 30th. 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 email to the Detachments and Department. If you have any questions, please feel free to email or call me regarding Paymaster items.

**CHAPLAIN REPORT (SICK AND/ OR IN DISTRES) Dennis Dressler** - The time Spring Staff Meeting and Department Convention has been relatively quiet. During this period, I have received and processed six Notice of Death Reports as well as one inquiry. The members we have lost are: \*Marine Cindy Saling of the Melvin M Smith Detachment who passed April 19, 2023; \*Marine Alert Rasmussen of the Puget Sound Detachment who passed April 27, 2023; \*Marine Marvin Wood of the Puget Sound Detachment who passed December 7, 2020; \*Marine Richard Bautch of the Puget Sound Detachment who passed December 15, 2021; \*Marine Arthur Petty Jr of the Puget Sound Detachment who passed on July 22, 2022; \*Marine Richard Jamieson of the Melvin M Smith Detachment who passed May 27, 2023. The inquiry I received regarding Marine Jim Sims of the Olympia Detachment; I had no record of having received any information concerning his having passed into rest. I participated as Chaplain of the Melvin M Smith's Memorial Service at Fairmont Memorial Cemetery that was well attended by the public. On June 6th I officiated at Maine Dick Jamieson's burial service. I attended the Community Development and Civic Engagement Meeting at the Mann Grand Staff Veterans Medical Center.

**CORRESPONDENCE: NONE**

**REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

- **Commandant: John Moysiuk** – The Department of Washington currently has 15 Detachments. The Department was instrumental at holding the “Rock Ceremony” honoring those Marines who lost their lives when the plane they were riding in crashed high atop Mt Rainier in the Cascade Mountain Range on December 10th, 1946. Our Department Marine of the Year Medallion is fashioned with 32 stars in memorial of those 32 Marines who are still entombed on a glacier on Mt Rainier. The Department was represented in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade, the largest Veterans parade west of the Mississippi River as well at many local Veteran's Day and Memorial Day events. Rendering Honors/Color Guards/Burial Details have been actively increasing as we recover from the pandemic. Many of the Detachments held local Birthday Balls or Cake Cutting Ceremonies to honor the birth of our Corps. For Toys for Tots, of the reporting Detachments, the following totals were given: Twelve Detachments participated in one form or another. Toys Distributed: 301,098; Number of Children Assisted: 141,397. There were many Honor Guards performed, while Color Guards took place at multiple parades and additional ceremonies. Eagles Scout Awards presentations have been taking place with several for our department. Assisting transitioning military families is an ongoing service in many communities within our department. So, what does this all mean? As a Veterans Service Organization are active and moving forward in our communities in service and recognition to veterans. Community service hours included Honor Details, Flag Details, Toys for Tots, VAAC, Memorial Services, Veteran's Day services, Eagle Scout Award presentations, Young Marines, Parades, and community outreach in a variety of ways. All of these activities are a way for us to be out in the public eye, being visible, which assists us in recruiting by letting others know we are here and are serving. There is always room for improvement, let us discuss this!
- **Sr Vice Commandant: Ed Falter** – No Report.
- **JrVice Commandant: Shane Inman** – It is with regret that I am unable to participate with you at the Department Convention this year. Unfortunately, there are conflicting commitments that keep me from being with my brothers and sisters at the Department Convention. I have been a proud member of the Marine Corps League since beginning in 2001, I have held officer positions in two detachments, Skagit Valley Detachment 1043 moving up the ranks from Sgt at Arms to Commandant. I served as Commandant for two terms with 1043. Until moving to Olympia Det. 482 also moving up the ranks from Sgt at Arms to Commandant where I served Commandant for the last three years.

Also serving as your Department Judge Advocate for two years and this last year as your Junior Vice Commandant. Other rolls include Toys for Tots Assistant Coordinator for MCL and Marine Reserves, Veterans Legislative Coalition member and Chairman, and Boy Scouts of America to name a few. I have been an active member, officer, and Pound Keeper of Robert E Bush Order of the Devil Dogs and a Past Pound Keeper, officer, and member of the Geoduck Pound as well. It is my absolute intention to remain as the Department Junior Vice for the ensuing year with the pleasure of the Department. My vision for the Department is to continue with the progress laid out by Commandants before me and incorporate all department and detachment members participation in the progress of its success.

- **Judge Advocate: Joel Cartwright** – I am pleased to report that there are currently no pending Chapter 9s in the Department. As you know, I released the new Department Bylaws for review for the Detachments at the Spring Staff Meeting last April. Hopefully, all will go well with the vote for that here at the Convention. I have reviewed the Bylaws from the Melvin M Smith Detachment 586 and Pierce County Detachment 504 and have made recommendations for their Judge Advocates. I am currently reviewing the Bylaws for Skagit Valley Detachment 1043 and Yakima/Kittitas Detachment 1055 and I will be continuing to review all Detachment Bylaws. I look forward to another productive year as Judge Advocate if reelected.
- **Jr Past Commandant: George Hilbish** – Absent

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES/ADVISORY COUNCILS:**

- **Rules of the Convention:** J/A Joel Cartwright – Read & voted on.
- **Financial Audit:** Dept Cmndn't appoints two members to audit books w/Dept Paymaster Jim Daly and Mark Schildknecht audited books and in good order.
- **Budget and Finance:** Rick Flath – PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2023, The Budget and Finance Committee shall prepare a financial program and budget for the conduct of the business and affairs of the Department for the ensuing year, and to devise ways and means of increasing the funds of the Department. To present a finalized budget to the Department Board of Trustees, prior to the convening of the Department Convention. The budget is based upon the membership strength of each Detachment in the Department and subsequent Annual dues (2021)- \$5.00 per member received from each detachment and the Life membership interest received from National Headquarters.

Dues Paying members as of 8 April (2023)- 189 x \$5.00 =	945.00
Unpaid members as of 8 April (2022)- 57 x \$5.00 =	285.00
<b>Total 246 Members X \$5.00 =</b>	<b>1230.00</b>
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Projected income (2023 – 2024) (246 Mbrs. X \$5.00	1230.00
(2023) PLM dues received:	1113.40
Department Totals =	2343.40

**Proposed Budget for FY 2024, Department of Washington, Marine Corps League**

	2023	2023	2023	
	Budgeted	Actual	Proposed	
Dept. Operational Expenses	\$200.00	\$61.90	\$125.00	Adj Postage
		\$0.00	\$50.00	Paymaster Office Supplies
Chaplains Expenses	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	Ltrs of Condolence, postage
Ads/Awards Program	\$265.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	Local Convention Ad/Plaques
Secretary of State	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	Sec of State annual filing
Website	\$182.00	\$209.42	\$1400.00	Website Hosting \$400.00/
Website Update one-time fee of	\$1000.00	(no update	\$209.42)	
Cmndn't, Adj/Paymaster Stipend	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	Conducting Dept. business.
	\$0.00			Commandant \$300
	\$0.00	\$300.00		Adjutant \$300
	\$0.00	\$200.00		Paymaster \$200
Veterans Leg. Coalition	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	Annual Dues
Other Expenses		\$0.00	TBD	Honored Convention Guest exp
(Hotel, Meals & Gift)	\$34.67		0.00	Shipping fees for Ribbons
Oxford Suites - Spring Staff mtg	270.76	243.68	250.00	
Oxford Suites - Fall Staff mtg	\$270.68	\$243.68	\$250.00	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,168.44</b>	<b>\$1353.35</b>	<b>\$3255.00</b>	

Available in the Commandants travel fund \$483.00.

The above is a budget based on the previous years and projected expenses. The Department Budget depends on the Detachments encouraging and following up on their members for their dues on a regular basis. Also reporting your PLM in a timely manner. Some Detachments failed to certify their PLM reports on time resulting in a lower return to the Department, and no return to those detachments. Motion to approve budget for FY2023 – 2024

**Delegate Report:**

2023 Convention Delegates

Detachment	Mbrs	Assoc		Voting Mbrs.	Alt
336	50	3 = 47	47 div by 15 = 3.13	3	3
337	24	- 3 = 21	21 div by 15 = 1.40	2	2
442	36	- 7 = 27	27 div by 15 = 1.80	2	2
482	49	- 3 = 46	49 div by 15 = 3.26	3	3
504	65	- 6 = 59	59 div by 15 = 3.93	4	4
531	47	- 9 = 38	38 div by 15 = 2.53	3	3
586	109	- 6 = 103	103 div by 15 = 6.86	7	7
826	74	- 1 = 73	73 div by 15 = 4.86	5	5
889	18	- 1 = 17	17 div by 15 = 1.13	1	1
897	36	- 14 = 22	22 div by 15 = 1.46	2	2
1043	35	- 2 = 33	33 div by 15 = 2.20	3	3
1055	36	- 5 = 31	31 div by 15 = 2.06	2	2
1119	26	- 4 = 22	22 div by 15 = 1.46	2	2
1335	23	- 7 = 16	16 div by 15 = 1.06	1	1
1451	22	- 0 = 22	22 div by 15 = 1.46	2	2
Totals				42	42

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<b>Membership: Rick Flath</b> – Dept membership #s as of 04/17/2023 Detachment Roster Report from National					
<b>Regular Members</b>	PLM	386	Paid	122	Total Paid (PLM + Paid) = 508 < 13.8% Unpaid 41
<b>Assoc. Members</b>	PLM	072	Paid	066	Total Paid (PLM + Paid) = 138 > 215.5% Unpaid 7
<b>Multiple</b>	PLM	003	Paid	001	Total Paid (PLM + Paid) = 4 < 33.3% Unpaid 2
<b>Total</b>	PLM	461	Paid	189	Total Paid (PLM + Paid) = 650 = 0.1% Unpaid 50

- **Detachment Commandants’ Council: SrVice Cmndn’t Ed Falter – absent**
- **Past Department Commandants’ Council: Bonnie Holden-** Meeting was held June 9, 2023, and 3 were in attendance Bonnie Holden, John Stofiel, and Dennis Dressler. We have no report at this time.
- **Dept of Washington Convention:** – Commandant John Moysiuk: Called for proposals for the 2024 Convention. No responses.
- **Rock 32 Ceremony:** Rick Gorman – Rifle team from the Marines of Bangor and the Young Marines will be on site. Puget Sound Det. Roger Volk will be MC and I have two potential guest speakers. Saturday, 26 August 2023@ 12 PM – 1:30 PM @ The foot of Mt. Rainier @ Veterans Memorial Park in Enumclaw along Hwy 410 1151 Roosevelt Ave. Enumclaw, WA 98022.
- **Legislative: Shane Inman** – The 2023 Legislative Executive Session is complete. You will find in the attached document this year’s successes. The VLC has supported numerous veterans’ bills for military spouses and mental health issues. During the last 6 years the Veterans Legislative Coalition (VLC)TEAM has made major improvements of Jobs for Veterans and spouses. There have been 11 Bills passed to help the Veteran families. A major jump this year was the Nurses Compact. Now the following medical related compacts are law: Nurses Licensure Compact, Interstate medical Licensure Compact, Physical Therapy Compact, Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact, Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact and the Dentist and Dental and Dental Hygienist Compact. There have been 4 plus bills for Education Assistance. There were 4 bills passed to provide property tax relief. **There are now 3 bills that establish the Suicide Prevention 988 program.** Two bills that will help our Handicap veterans, one of those bills means they will not have to pay sales tax on their VA provided Handicap Vehicles. And lastly provide a Service Officers for our states Rural Counties. I must state the VLC is a team effort comprised of volunteers who are

passionate about Veterans. The Following is a list of legislative action that was accomplished this session. The below link includes the Veteran/Military Bills that have/will go to the Governor's desk for signature.

<https://www.dva.wa.gov/sites/default/files/202305/End%20of%20Session%20Veteran%20Bill%20Overview.pdf>

- **Bylaws: Joel Cartwright** – Updated Dept. bylaws were sent to each detachment and current members of the Dept Staff for review. John Stofiel moved to accept the proposed bylaw changes. Second by Ted Streete. Discussion: this was quite an extensive discussion and bottom line the Dept. J/A will update the bylaws with the proposals approved at the last convention. All other changes will be held until the next convention with appropriate review showing original bylaw, the proposed amendment and Justification for change and sent out to all members for review and subsequent vote.
- **Americanism: Bonnie Holden** – Americanism Award is in the <https://www.mclnational.org> Website in the Library. I will pick up any Americanism books of Detachments who are not attending the National Convention and return them during the Fall Staff Meeting in October 2023
- **Eagle Scouts: Bonnie Holden** – The Marine Corps League National Headquarters website has the form for the Eagle Scout to complete that you can print. I received 7 out of the 16 Detachments who responded. There are embossed awards that can be purchased at the Semper Fi store for this purpose. I would like each detachment to contact me at 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. 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. Out of the 7 Detachments that sent reports 2 do not participate and 3 awards were given by the ones that I heard from total. 360-339-3446 [bonnie.holden@hotmail.com](mailto:bonnie.holden@hotmail.com) 17823 Gilbert St SE Tenino Wa 98589
- **Nominations: George Hilbish** – Absent – Past Cmndn't Bonnie Holden - Commandant: John Moysiuk; Sr. Vice Commandant: Ed Faulter; Jr. Vice Commandant: Shane Inman & Lou Anne Harrey; and Judge Advocate: Joel Cartwright.
- **Web Sergeant: Bill Hauser** – The Department website is located at <https://www.mcldeptwa.org/> In the period February 28 to March 29, 2023, we had 345 Site sessions, 319 Unique Visitors with 470 page views. Overall, the website is working well. If your Detachment has something going on and you have photos. Send them to me and I will 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; People visit 2.2 pages per session on your site - that is higher than the category average of 1.7. \* 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. \*The / (Homepage) page had a significant increase in traffic.
- **Marine for Life: Mark Gorman** – No action since last report
- **VAAC Representative: Ron Black** – Since the last VAAC report submitted to the Dept. of WA. MCL, The VAAC has continued to work at fulfilling the mission and goals set for year 2023, to look for new opportunity and new ways to assist veterans and veteran families in every county of the state, to provide the most accurate and current veteran related information available and provide guidance on how to navigate the sometimes-difficult process. AKA "Red Tape." The VAAC town hall meetings are still an important part of that outreach strategy. The Washington State Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Governors Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee, Women Veterans Advisory Committee are working hard to make a difference. The WDVA and Committees maintain web pages full of useful information that is accessible 24/7. FYI, occasionally there are vacant VAAC positions that have not been filled by veteran organizations, for information about what vacancies exist, (you must be a member of that organization and

appointed) contact the WDVA. The appointment is for a minimum 4 -year term. It has been an honor to serve on the VAAC committee and to represent the Dept. of WA. Marine Corps League Detachments. My 2023 fiscal year is only half completed so there is more work to do, and I am looking forward to it.

- **Marine of the Year: Pres. Ron Black/Secretary Mark Schildknecht** – Marine of the year and Associate Marine of the year will be presented at the banquet.
- **Young Marines Liaison: Ed Falter** – I requested reports from the YM units in May and have yet to receive a response from anyone. At this time there is no report.
- **Toys for Tots: LouAnne Harrey** – No report.
- **Awards:** The John Stofiel Awards will be presented at the banquet on Saturday evening.

#### **REPORT OF DETACHMENT COMMANDANTS:**

**PUGET SOUND DET. #336:** Roger Volk – We performed 11 Funeral Honors between 1 April and 11 May; 28 Community Service Hours performed between April 1st and May 31<sup>st</sup>; (examples: Toys 4 Tots, Scouting, Young Marines, Funeral Honors, Parades, etc.). We had a Det. BBQ in April, raised 320.00 and invited the Marine Support Group.

**TRI-CITIES DET. #337:** Mike Ridgel/Sean Edler – Detachment #337 continues to have monthly meetings. We have been working on a fundraiser with the Tri City Young Marines. We are collaborating together on an Applebees Flapjack breakfast which is scheduled for July 23rd. We are planning to have a booth at our local fair, Benton Franklin County Fair, held in August. The objective of the booth is recruiting. We have initiated early plans for an informal USMC Ball gathering. We have also initiated early plans for a rifle raffle fundraiser that will kick off in November or January, depending on our fundraising success this year.

**TWIN HARBORS DET. #442:** Ron Black Abs. Jim Daly– Detachment 442 was in uniform and all hands on deck at the memorial service with full military honors given for Marine Irvin Stephens which was officiated by Commandant / Reverend Ron Black by request of the family .Some new members of Detachment 442 had not had much opportunity to get to know Irv Stephens on a personal level but they made the trip to pay their respect for this patriot, a wounded warrior and purple heart recipient, he was one of the Chosin Few and never regretted one day of his service during the Korean War. The Memorial Service was held graveside at the Menlo Fern Hill Cemetery, Menlo WA. Sr. Vice Commandant Jim Daly and Marine Don Corcoran of Det. 442 assisted in the memorial service. Active-duty Marines from Joint Base Lewis –Mc Chord presented three flags to family, the American Legion color guard and rifle team did an excellent job supporting the Military Honors. As commandant I could not be proud of the level of support given by our detachment regular and associate members. Other Activity: Twin Harbors Detachment 442 participated in 3 locations in two counties in observance of Memorial Day. Sr. Vice Commandant Jim Daily, certified VFW Veteran Service Officer and Commandant Ron Black Certified DAV Service Officer continue to devote time and effort to reaching out to veterans and veteran families to aid whenever possible in Grays Harbor and Pacific County. Dept. of WA. MCL Marines and families have benefited from the assistance given them which is a remarkable thing the Department of WA. MCL as a whole.

**OLYMPIA DET. #482:** Shane Inman – Olympia Detachment held annual elections and have new file of officers. The growth of the detachment is in a positive direction. Olympia Detachment is preparing to participate 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 distributes American Flags to parade goers and Marines ride on the float. The Detachment is continuously working on changes to the By-Laws and updates. The Detachment continues to work closely with the local Boy Scouts troop becoming Chartered Organization of Olympic District 11 Pacific Harbors Council Boy Scouts of America 612. Our detachment continues to grow and has new (Younger) members willing to step up and assist with the mission.

**PIERCE COUNTY DET. #504:** Mike Edwards / James Golden– The Pierce County Detachment report of our activities for April and May 2023. The Detachment held its regular monthly meeting in both April and May, turnout for both these meetings was light on membership and participation. The Detachment has started its operational expense and charity programs fundraiser for 2023 and is planning on scheduling several events over the summer and fall months to sell raffle tickets. The Detachment has three members who have been diagnosed with terminal cancer and are receiving chemo treatment. One other member is in rehab for shoulder problems and will also be having surgery in June. Our oldest member, age, and length of service with the MCL has dementia and is in the Veterans Home in Retsil, WA. The Detachment members are also handing out business cards, brochures, and flyers as a recruiting tool to hopefully bring in new members. The Detachment had three members that attended the Spring Conference in Yakima. The detachment

has a total of 74 active members, 58 Life members, 13 annual members and 1 dual member, with 2 of our annual members currently delinquent. The Detachment maintains a Facebook page a Web page and is also publishing a monthly newsletter.

**OLYMPIC PENINSULA DET. #531: Ted Streete** – Period: April 2023 through May 2023 **April 2023:** \*Detachment 531 Marines attended the Department of Washington Spring Conference on April 1, 2023; \*Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on April 5, 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 April 20, 2023, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA. \*Detachment 531 Marines participated in the Kitsap County Veterans' Stand-down at Sheridan Park Community Center in Bremerton on April 22, 2023. \*The Detachment 531 Board of Officers met on April 25, 2023, to further coordinate the Detachment's efforts required to host the Department of Washington 2023 Convention in June. **\*May 2023:** \*Detachment 531's monthly Business Meeting was conducted on May 3, 2023, at VFW Post 2669 in Port Orchard, WA. \*Detachment 531 Officers met with Rhonda Sweis at the Silverdale Beach Best Western Plus Hotel on May 3, 2023, to plan for the Department of Washington 2023 Convention. \*The Leatherneck Honor Guard performed Honor Guard duties at Tahoma National Cemetery. \*Detachment 531 distributed "Rifle Salute Advisory" forms to the businesses near the Best Western Plus Silverdale Beach Hotel. This form lets the businesses know about the Rifle Salute that will occur during the Memorial Service at the Department of Washington 2023 Convention to obviate people's concerns when they hear rifle reports. \*The Detachment 531 Monthly Breakfast occurred on May 18, 2023, at All-Star Lanes in Silverdale, WA. \*Detachment 531 Marines participated in the Bremerton Armed Forces Day Parade on May 20, 2023. \*The Detachment 531 Board of Officers met on May 23, 2023, to further coordinate the Detachment's efforts required to host the Department of Washington 2023 Convention in June.

**EAGLE SCOUTS:** Bonnie Holden - Negative Report.

**MELVIN M SMITH DET. #586:** Tim Kruse – Detachment continues to hold monthly meetings at VFW #1435. The next meeting will be June 8<sup>th</sup> and we will install our new officers. Our Honor Guard continues to do several funerals a month and did a Color Guard detail at a Spokane Indians baseball game. We had several members participate in the Armed Forces Torch Light Parade May 20<sup>th</sup> and our annual Memorial Day ceremony at Fairmount Cemetery. I hope everyone has a safe and festive time at the Department convention.

**COLUMBIA RIVER DET. #826:** Pete Thornton – In April we brought in another new member and recruited new members on a continuous basis. Our members continued to serve at our VA Hospital-Vancouver Division, represented on the Marine Corps Coordinating Council, County Veterans Advisory Committee, and the County Community-Military Committee. We elected new Officers in April. In May: Past Dept Commandant Rex Hopper installed our Officers, and an ROI was submitted as required. We had members in attendance at our Community Salutes Program honoring High School Seniors going into the Military, and at two Memorial Day Ceremonies. We hosted hole #18 7 June which was fund raiser for homeless Veterans where our members set up and staffed our new tent and tables with our Rose Program several golfers stopped by to get information about our detachment, of note one golfer took one of our roses and left \$100 in our donation jar. Our Lewis & Clark YM program is doing well providing Color Guards for the Trailblazers, doing community service for various organizations in our community, posting of flags on graves at Willamette National Cemetery and providing a Color Details on Memorial Day @ several senior citizen homes.

**MT. ST. HELENS DET. #889:** Glen Esperson – We had our regular meetings in April, May, and June. In April we had the funeral for Terry Reams in Yakima, WA; In May we also had our installation of officers. Thank you to Rex Hopper, Past Washington Department Commandant from Columbia River Detachment in Vancouver, Washington, for conducting our installation. We did honor guard on Memorial Day at the Steele Chapel in Longview, Washington. We had three who attended (Don Simmons, Bob Klinefelter, and Ben Lopez). After that Don Simmons and Bob Klinefelter went to Spirit Lake and did a ceremony at a church potluck. At our June meeting we voted and passed that we will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and have a booth at the lake in Longview, WAS. We are going to try to get the Young Marines from Vancouver to participate in the parade.

**MT. OLYMPUS DET. #897:** Mark Schildknecht – The following community events participated in (1 April-31 May): 1 April 2023: Donated 2013 Ford Explorer Limited to 'Sarge's Veteran Support' a Veterans group located in Forks, Washington. 4 May 2023: Detachment members volunteered at the annual Forks Stand Down 19 May 2023: Detachment Honor Guard members attended the annual Clallam County Sheriff's BBQ for local first responders. Following the BBQ, the

annual Clallam County Law Enforcement Remembrance Day ceremony was held at Veterans Park in Port Angeles, Wa. Our Detachment Honor Guard provided the Rifle Salute at the end of the ceremony. 26 May 2023: Detachment Honor Guard provided the Military Honors Rifle Salute at the annual Memorial Day Ceremony held at the Mt. Angeles Cemetery in Port Angeles, Washington. That same afternoon, the Honor Guard was requested to attend the annual Captain Joseph House ceremony held in Port Angeles. They did not provide a Rifle Salute but wore their red jackets and covers and were seated in a prominent area. Note: The Captain Joseph House Foundation (CJHF) is the first Family-to-Family respite home in the country created to lend support to Gold Star Families of military's Fallen Heroes. The Foundation provides an expense-paid, 5-night, 6-day respite/retreat in the scenic Pacific Northwest. The House offers families a private, comfortable haven to heal. The Fallen will have served and died while in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States of America or died as a direct result of injuries sustained during this same combat service, having occurred on or after September 11, 2001, the Global War on Terrorism. Gold Star Families served by CJHF are surviving spouses, parents, and immediate family members. Those of us living here on the northwest Olympic Peninsula are proud to be affiliated with this great Foundation. April-May 2023: Detachment Honor Guard provided Military Honors for memorials/ funerals. Withdrew from annual local parade: For the first time ever, our Detachment withdrew from the longest ongoing annual Festival in the state., The Sequim Irrigation Festival. Local Veterans organizations have always been the 'lead off group' of the parade. This year, out of 94 entries, the three local Veterans organizations were placed in the following positions: MCL-Det. 897 - # 63; American Legion, Jack Grennan, Post 62, Sequim #65; 75 VFW Post 4760 -Rick Leenstra- Sequim #75. Car clubs, restaurants, realtors, bicycle clubs, local commercial trash company; banks, out-of-the-area festival floats, etc. were all placed in line, ahead of Veterans organizations. Our Detachment Commandant took a Detachment membership vote (100% wanted us to withdraw), then contacted the other 2 local Veterans organizations, who also decided to withdraw. Therefore, there were no Veteran organizations/representations in the parade. Commandant inquired as to why the change and was told the Festival Board wanted to give others a chance to be at the beginning of the parade, and the decision was firm.

**SKAGIT VALLEY DET. #1043:** Robert Olivarez – Was involved in 3 Memorial Day events and did a flag folding for the cemetery honoring our veterans. We were involved with 8 schools and their ROTC programs will continue to do it over the next yrs. to come. We will be on the 4th of July parade in 2 towns in Skagit county.

**YAKIMA KITTITAS VALLEY DET. #1055:** Nicholas Myers –. Current detachment strength is 19 regular members, 4 associate members, and 16 Life members. Detachment officers were elected in May and the ROI was submitted. The detachment honor detail provided services for a Marine on April 24, 2023.

Detachment members provided the lead color guard for the Selah Days parade on May 20 and conducted a Veterans Honoring service following the parade. Unfortunately, the annual Memorial Day parade in Yakima had to be canceled this year due to a lack of participants. However, Yakima-Kittitas Det. 1055 hosted and conducted 2 Memorial Day services: one at West Hills Memorial Park at 0900 and the other at Sarg Hubbard Park at 1300.

**CPL JOSEPH P. BIER DET. #1119:** Jonathan Akers – Detachment continues monthly business meetings and breakfasts. We have added no new members since the last report. We scheduled an outreach for new members at the local college. However, due to schedule conflicts with some of our members we will need to reschedule. For Memorial Day, we held a ceremony with our Honor Guard at the Grand Mound Cemetery in Rochester, WA. There were 73 in attendance and the Lewis County Young Marines and Rochester Scouts helped with placing the wreath and lowering the flag. Lewis County Young Marines will be marching in the Flag Day Parade on June 17, 2023, in Ocean Shores WA. The detachment still has plans to be involved with Summerfest in July at Centralia's Borst Park. We are planning a detachment picnic in July at one of our member's homes.

**CAPT. DANIEL B. BARTLE DET #1335:** – Bruce Barton – No Report

**COL RICHARD FRANCISCO #1451:** – Robert "Bob" Gabelein – Our Detachment has held regular monthly meetings. With no extra details until May. We had a funeral honor with eight-man hours. Also, we had four members travel on the Northwest Honor Flight May 20-22. Memorial Day weekend we had two days of fund drives for seventy-two men. Also, we are having a Memorial service for fallen veterans on Monday May 29th. We had discussions on officer placements at our last meeting. Unfortunately, I will be unavailable to attend the June convention, but we will have at least one member attend for me.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**DIGITAL PLAN BY PAYMASTER RICK FLATH** Presented the proposed change to our communications route amongst detachments and the department via a department website that is all-inclusive providing each detachment with a website connect with the Department. The proposal will be brought to each detachment membership and be prepared to vote on same at the October Staff meeting.

Summary: Individual detachments in Washington are unable to effectively communicate outside their respective detachments, WA Department has difficulty in contacting detachments due to rotating email addresses and turnover, detachments are unaware of each other's community events and needs. Through consolidation of detachment websites and creation of group email lists, communication will be effective and efficient, detachments can coordinate efforts of fund raising and recruiting, and WA Department will have intimate knowledge of detachment activities. With improved communication and online presence, the result should be an exponential growth in recruiting for all detachments, increased support of detachments by WA Department and among the detachments in events, and less expenditure in website expenses. The public and members will see the Marine Corps League in Washington as one centralized organization rather than loosely connected or independent detachments.

### Problems and Solutions

A. Problem: Individual detachments and Department cannot easily communicate with each other.

Solution: Use a WA Department email list through [www.simplelists.com](http://www.simplelists.com), allowing for creation of individual groups. Email lists can be created that allow ability to target recipients like:

1. All detachment members (officers and members)
  - a. Separated by individual detachment.
  - b. All detachments combined into one email group.
2. Only detachment officers (no members)
  - a. Separated by individual detachments.
  - b. All detachment officers from all detachments combined in one email group.

Example email address: [det336@mclwa.org](mailto:det336@mclwa.org), [officers336@mclwa.org](mailto:officers336@mclwa.org), [det-all@mclwa.org](mailto:det-all@mclwa.org), etc....

B. Problem: Personal email addresses are used for communication, resulting in missed communications with position changes and expected turnover.

Solution: Issuance of standardized email for officers. Example, officers will assume the email of their predecessor to maintain consistency and identified by detachment.

Examples: [Commandant336@mclwa.org](mailto:Commandant336@mclwa.org) [Paymastert836@mclwa.org](mailto:Paymastert836@mclwa.org)

Cost: \$25/monthly to solve for both above problems

C. Problem: Individual detachments either have no website presence, use Facebook/Meta only, have non-standard domain names, are not consistent Marine Corps League information, and are not connected among other detachments.

Solution:

Department can host a single domain ([www.mclwa.org](http://www.mclwa.org) as an example) and each detachment can be given a sub-domain ([www.336.mclwa.org](http://www.336.mclwa.org) as an example). Each sub-domain can be maintained by the individual detachments. Detachments without technical skills can still have a single webpage of contact information and standardized information.

Cost covers every detachment's website, including the WA Department's website. Sub-domains are unlimited in number. Cost: \$200-\$300/annually

D. Problem: Individual detachments are unaware of the events of other detachments, resulting in duplication of efforts, loss of recruiting opportunities, and independent mistakes since they are not able to learn from mistakes of sister detachments.

Solution:

A single calendar on the WA Department's website that is embedded (i.e.: copied) on every individual detachment's website that includes all activities. Individual detachments to report activities to WA Department to be entered into the calendar. Events can be filtered by location, event type, and detachment. Cost: \$40

Implementation: The initial start requires full WA Department support in becoming the parent Internet domain for all detachments. As Louisiana has been recognized by National as a model, following its lead in domain name ([www.mclla.org](http://www.mclla.org)) is suggested to be [www.mclwa.org](http://www.mclwa.org). Each detachment would then have its domain as [www.336.mclwa.org](http://www.336.mclwa.org) using each detachment's respective number. Detachment 336 would be the test model for implementation before all detachments make the switch. Developing both Det 336 and WA Department allows for working out the 'bugs' and improving the template to be followed, which will make transition easier for all detachments.

The current WA Department and Det 336 websites will remain active while “draft” sites are created on the webhost until the transition is ready.

Desired Outcomes:

One parent Internet domain: [www.MCLWA.org](http://www.MCLWA.org)

Consistent Detachment sub-domains: [www.336.MCLWA.org](http://www.336.MCLWA.org)

Consistent email addresses: [commandant336@MCLWA.org](mailto:commandant336@MCLWA.org)

One shared and filtered calendar: WA Department to maintain, shared with all detachments.

One email list that behaves like one organization’s internal email system, not independent organizations.

Cross referenced websites for ease of potential members to find detachments local to them.

More informed detachments to coordinate and support sister detachments in their efforts of recruiting, fund-raising, and community events.

**LAST ORDER OF BUSINESS Past Commandant Dennis Dressler** – The nominations: Dept. Commandant John Moysiuk are there any nominations from the floor X3 are hearing none, nominations for Dept Commandant are closed. Sr Vice Cmndn’t Ed Falter are there any nominations from the floor X3 hearing none nominations for Sr Vice Cmndn’t are closed; Jr Vice Cmndn’t Shane Inman and LouAnne Harrey re there any other nominations X3 nominations for Jr Vice are closed. Judge Advocate Joel Cartwright are there any nominations from the floor X3 are hearing no nominations for Dept Commandant are closed. We will vote by paper vote to select our Jr Vice Cmndn’t. Jim Daly moved that we elect the uncontested nominees by acclamation, 2<sup>nd</sup>, carried. Votes tallied by Jim Daly and Ted Streete Congratulations to LuAnne Harrey our new Jr. Vice Cmndn’t.

**AWARDS PRESENTATION: Commandant presents certificates in recognition of hard-working volunteers.**

**Distinguished Citizen Award Silver:** Betty Restau #442, John Moysiuk

**Distinguished Service Award:** Joel Cartwright, Dennis Dressler, Richard Flath, Mark Schildknecht, John Stofiel, Carl Schauppner-#586, Larry R Rosenburg-#586, Karen A Sobisky #586, Shauna D Howey-#586, Ivan Urnovitz-#586. Diana Schildknecht, George Hilbish 504,

**Individual Meritorious Commendation**

Toby Clairmont 836, Mike Edwards 504, Rex Hopper 826, Jim Golden 504, Henry Lee 504, James Panlener 504, Steve Paris 504, Frank Thompson 504, Pete Thornton 836; Lou Anne Harrey, Mark Gorman, Ron Black, & William Hauser

**Meritorious Unit Commendation:** Twin Harbors-442, Olympia 482, Pierce County-504, Columbia River-826, Mt Olympus -897.

It is important to recognize your members in all that they do. Do not be afraid to nominate your members in recognition of their volunteer activities for the League. Jim Daly offered a spreadsheet to track awards.

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Commandant Moysiuk** – You all rate the 100-year anniversary ribbon. AUG 13TH-19TH, 2023 MARINE CORPS LEAGUE CONVENTION - 100-YEARS. Omni Hotel 100 West Oklahoma City Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK.

**Business meeting Recess**

**1230 Memorial Ceremony in the ballroom following lunch.**

**1400-1500 HOST DET. PRESENTATION OF RAFFLE AUCTION ITEMS**

**1500-1600 WA PACK GRAND GROWL**

**BANQUET AGENDA: 1800 No host bar**

**1830: NEWLY ELECTED COMMANDANT: Open for business Pledge of Allegiance**

**CHAPLAIN: OPEN BIBLE Singing of National Anthem led by Jim Daly**

**1845 COMMANDANT DINNER IS SERVED,**

**COMMANDANT John Moysiuk PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

**Department Recruiter Silver James E Daly – Twin Harbors 10 new regular and 2 Associate members.**

**Distinguished Service Award Kenneth E Norwood -#1119, Bonnie Holden,**

**Meritorious Unit Commendation Cpl. Joseph P Bier Det. #1119**

**CLOSING CEREMONY: COMMANDANT**