



# SC Leathernecks

## Marine Corps League

### Department of South Carolina



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020

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For more information visit [mcleaguesc.org](http://mcleaguesc.org) or see page 19.

#### DATE CHANGE FOR DEPT. MEETING

**NEW DATE IS OCTOBER 10TH**

**@ 9:00 AM (1 HR EARLIER)**

**I HOPE EVERYONE HAD A GREAT AND  
SAFE LABOR DAY!**

**ALSO, I HOPE YOU ALL ARE STAYING  
SAFE DURING THIS PANDEMIC. I SAW  
THAT HANES IS MAKING MASKS  
NOW...HMM IT'S LIKE WEARING  
UNDERWEAR ON YOUR FACE.**

**MASKS WILL BE MANDATORY FOR  
THE MEETING.**



**Editor & Publisher Deborah Stone (864) 518-6518**

**[deptscnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:deptscnewsletter@gmail.com)**

**NOTE: Please submit items in jpeg or png.**



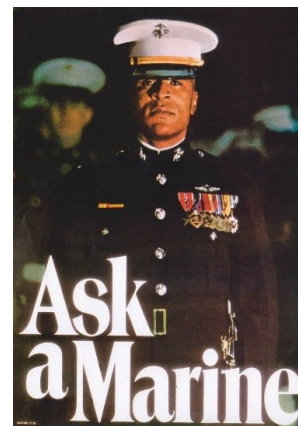


# Department Commandant

**Jerry Holt** [jerryholt813@gmail.com](mailto:jerryholt813@gmail.com)

**I'm sure we've all heard** a lot of jokes and expressions of despair about 2020. To say the least, it's been a challenging year so far. We've lost at least one member to the Virus, and many of us are still hunkered down. While Covid-19 has affected our abilities to meet, recruit, socialize and raise funds, those disruptions pale in comparison to the personal losses and grief experienced by the families and friends of those we've lost. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

**A few days ago**, I had the opportunity to join the members of the Kershaw County Leathernecks, Detachment 1146, in a parade honoring retired Marine Major James Capers, who was born in Bishopville. The event was a celebration of the Major's 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday, and a dedication of a plaque in a memorial park in downtown Bishopville. Major Capers was the first black Marine to receive a battlefield commission, going from staff sergeant to second lieutenant. As the leader of a Force Recon Team in Vietnam, he was wounded 19 times in battle and received the Silver Star. There is still a petition for him to receive the Medal of Honor, for which he was initially nominated.



While you may not have known his name, you might recognize his picture. Maj. Capers is the Marine in the late 1960's recruiting poster "Ask A Marine".

**On Thursday, August 27**, Hurricane Laura made landfall in Louisiana. You have undoubtedly seen news clips of the widespread destruction in Lake Charles and other coastal towns. I spoke to Ronnie Broussard, the Department Commandant of Louisiana, on the following day to see how his members were faring. Lake Charles is the home of one of the League Detachments. It seems that some members lost their homes, and others experienced significant damage due to wind and flooding. Our Department conducted an emergency vote of the Trustees by email and it was overwhelmingly approved to FedEx a \$2,000 check to Louisiana to help provide some quick relief to some of the League members. With expectations that many of the residents of that area may not have electric service or water for several weeks, \$2,000 won't go very far, but it should help a few of the families get some basic necessities for a few days. The Marine Corps League Foundation has a program to provide disaster assistance in situations like these so additional help should be coming from that avenue. We'll stay in touch with the Department staff on Louisiana to assess if there is anything more we can do to help.

**Quarterly Meeting Update.** Last month's newsletter contained some incorrect information about our meeting next month. It turns out that it didn't matter because much more has changed anyway. The original plan was to hold the meeting on Saturday, October 10 (not the 18<sup>th</sup> as mentioned in last month's newsletter) at the Scottish Rite Center. Due to the coronavirus, the Center has curtailed the use of their facility so we will not be able to meet there. Thanks to our MODD Pack Police Dog, PDD Dan Hoffman, we were able to secure the Legion Post for our meeting and Pack Growl. So now, the Quarterly Meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 6, in Co-

**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
Saturday, October 10 at 0900  
American Legion Post 6  
200 Pickens St  
Columbia, SC 29205

The Quarterly meeting is starting one hour earlier than normal because we have a very full agenda. Since we didn't have our Department Convention, we will hold election of Department officers and we'll have the drawing for the raffle tickets (which have hopefully all been sold). Remember, the Detachment keeps \$2 for each ticket sold. The raffle has three prizes: a \$500 first prize; a \$300 second prize and a \$200 third prize.

Regarding the election, as far as I know, all incumbent Department officers plan to run for re-election, **but this is an open election.** Any regular member in good standing is eligible to run for any of the elected positions. Nominations will be taken from the floor, so if you are interested, I encourage you to make your wishes known and ask any other member to nominate you for any particular office.

**New Member Database** National has been talking about this for the past few years, but it looks like it may finally be reaching the point where we can get some hands-on. This may be the first step in driving the Detachments to provide National with electronic checking account info so that EFT deposits and withdrawals can replace the mailing of checks, but for now, probably the major benefit will be that we can correct individual member records – such as address and phone number corrections / updates. It may not seem like much, but it's a significant leap from the archaic paper-driven system we currently have. This application is intended to be used and updated by Commandants and Paymasters. Soon, it should replace the quarterly roster we receive from National by allowing us to pull membership reports on demand. You can find a preliminary user guide on the National website ([www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)), then select Member Library and look under "Corporate Documents." The first time I tried to access this database several months ago, I was underwhelmed. I think now it has a little more structure on how to approach the data entry and the report generation, so I'm hoping for the best. I expect to give it another shot in the next week or so, and I hope for the best. Paymasters and Commandants are welcome to try it also.

I look forward to seeing you at the Quarterly Meeting (at the Legion Post 6 on October 10).

*Semper Fi*

*Jerry*

**DOC WILSON WILL HAVE ONLY 15 OF THESE  
FOR SALE AT THE MEETING.  
IF HE HAS ENOUGH INTEREST HE CAN ORDER  
MORE.**





## Dept. Sr. Vice Commandant

Larry Frelin [sclarryguy@aol.com](mailto:sclarryguy@aol.com)

At the writing of this column for our News Letter we are just a few days away from the Quarterly Meeting and most of you know several activities should have taken place at our annual convention if we could of held one.

The first is selection of Department Officers, second is the Marine of the Year, and next the Associate of the year.

we will also hold the annual raffle drawing which this year will be cash prizes. They are 1st Place =\$500, 2nd Place \$300, and 3rd Place \$200. Good Luck to one and all!!

Hope to see you all there!

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## KEEP YOUR TABS FOR CHARITY

We will have a competition to collect as many tabs as possible to donate MCLA Units in SC. They in turn will donate them to Ronald McDonald House Foundation. The 3 Detachments with the most tabs will divide them evenly and the Detachments will make their Donation to the MCLA Unit in their area or the one they sponsor or to the closest one.

Each Detachment, Pound, and Unit is encouraged to enter.

Bring your collections to the Quarterly. On the Ziplock bag(s) please write the quantity of tabs, as well as the Name/Number of your group. Continue to collect tabs until the Department Quarterly in October.

Any questions, please feel free to email Deborah([deborahstone2017@gmail.com](mailto:deborahstone2017@gmail.com)) or call 864-518-6518.



Pull for the  
House.



The sweetest way to support the **Ronald McDonald House** Charities. It takes approximately 1,128 pop **tabs** to equal one pound. We typically receive between \$0.40 to \$0.50 per pound of pop **tabs**. This program brings in an average of \$6,000 each year.





## Dept. Jr. Vice Commandant

Trish Gallagher [trish.doglover@gmail.com](mailto:trish.doglover@gmail.com)

Marines and Associates,

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and happy!

We will be having elections this Saturday. And therefore, I would like to take a moment to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Jr. Vice. You have been very supportive and I hope that I have left you with at least one or two useful things.

I will still be around the League, but our family needs to focus a little differently this year.

I wish all of you the best in everything!

Semper Fi,

*Semper fidelis*



## Vacancy in Department

Our Department Paymaster, Charles Hardy, is planning to roll back his participation in Department-level activities. We are looking for a qualified candidate who can step in to fill his shoes.

The acceptable candidate will be dedicated; detail oriented; familiar with (or willing to learn) Quickbooks to handle the budgeting & financial tracking; familiar with the reporting / transaction documents required by MCL National, IRS, SC Secretary of State, and the Detachments; and have a comfort level with computers since that's how our reporting is evolving.

The compensation level is on par with Detachment and Department Commandants. If you are aware of a candidate who is willing and fulfills these requirements, please let me know.

Jerry Holt (973) 897-9251

Mar 1, 2016		DATE
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	Jane Doe	\$ 100.00
One hundred dollars		DOLLARS
FOR Household Expense		



## Daymaster

**Charles Hardy** *cshwoodman@yahoo.com*

Listen up Marines.

It's time to get your Detachment 990 N filed and send me a copy of the approval memo.

South Carolina Secretary of State renewals are due too.

You should get an email soon. Please get your Life Member Audit to me ASAP.

Please work on your membership renewals. Send your transmittals to me.

Stay Safe and Stay home.



## Adjutant

**Jim Hill** *usmc1969@gmail.com*

Remember if there are any Officer changes due to death, transfers, vacating office or have an address, phone number or name change, please forward to me so that I may keep the Officer recall correct for the Department Officers if the need to contact a Detachment Officer.

Also, each Officer needs to have their own address, email and phone number on the Installation Reports. In addition, please have the Installing Officer sign the form .



## Worthy Pack Leader

**Jim Hill** *usmc1969@gmail.com*

Woof Woof,

Calling all dogs South Carolina Pack just a wanted to remind you of the upcoming grand Growl October 10, 2020 right after the department meeting . The department meeting will start at 9 AM so we can get it all covered we will be having our elections for the pack officers and having a growling good time . We Will also be presenting the pack dog of the year and pack dog Robber of the year awards. It's been too long since the dogs got together so let's all make an effort to show up and show out also one reminder we will be meeting at the American Legion in Columbia at 200 Pickens St.

Woof Woof will see you all there !

PDD Jim Hill worthy pack leader.

It's an Honor to be a Devil Dog!





# Chaplain's Corner

**Jeremiah Palmer** [jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com](mailto:jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com)

## FALLEN MARINES REPORT for July—August 2020

Ronad J Jakubec	Detachment #939	7/19/20
Leslie Gregg Sr	Detachment #410	8/29//20

### FALLEN ASSOCIATE MARINES REPORT

Leon S Boyd	Detachment #1106	8/10/20
John Burhalter	Detachment #939.	8/16/20

Please keep all of our Department members and families in your prayers. When a member passes don't forget to notify me by filling out the "Notice of Death" form and send it to me by email or mail.

Jeremiah E Palmer  
[214 Brook Forest Dr](mailto:jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com)  
[Anderson, SC 29621-7204](mailto:jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com)  
[jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com](mailto:jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com)

Semper Fi

Jeremiah E Palmer

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## FALLEN MARINES REPORT for September 2020

Joseph Jones	Detachment #1154	9/4//20
Arthur (Art) R. Blenk	Detachment #1432	9/14///20

Please keep all of our Department members and families in your prayers. When a member passes don't forget to notify me by filling out the "Notice of Death" form and send it to me by email or mail.

[214 Brook Forest Dr](mailto:jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com)  
[Anderson, SC 29621-7204](mailto:jeremiahepalmer32@gmail.com)  
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Semper Fi

Jeremiah E Palmer



**Obituary for Arthur "Art" Robert Blenk Arthur "Art" Robert Blenk** of Pawleys Island, SC and formerly of North Salem, NY, passed away peacefully on September 15, 2020.

Art was raised by Irene and Arthur Blenk in Franklin Square, NY where he attended Seawanhaka High School. As a United States Marine from 1953-1956, he served his country with the rank of Corporal in the Korean War Era and received the National Defense Service Medal. Upon completion of his military service, Art went on to receive a degree in Mathematics from Pennsylvania State University, where he was a Sigma Chi, and then a Masters in Operations Research from New York University. He was a dedicated member of the Marine Corps League-Grand Strand Detachment 873, Murrells Inlet, SC, where he served terms as Commandant, Adjutant and Chaplain. He also served as the Department Chaplain for the Marine Corps League Department of South Carolina. Through his service to the Myrtle Beach and Grand Strand communities in the Marine Corps League, Art spent countless hours serving the US Marine Reserve's Toys for Tots program, Wounded Warriors and the Grand Strand's Help4Kids & Backpack Buddies program. He was also involved with the local Junior ROTC program and the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout program where he had the opportunity to be a presenter of the esteemed Marine Corps League Good Citizenship Award to JROTC and BSA Eagle Scouts, exemplifying exactly what it meant to be a good citizen.

In 2013, Art received the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award and in 2018 the Distinguished Citizen Award, both prestigiously given by the Marine Corps League. Art is survived by his wife of 52 years, Anne Johnson Blenk; children, Tera Adams Blenk, Thomas Hadwin Blenk (Hyuna) and Elizabeth Blenk Kiniry (Christian); and five grandchildren, whom he loved more than anything else in the world, Robert, Daniel, Annabelle, Caroline and Hadwin. Those who knew Art could tell you that he was a man of his word and always completed a task on hand. He loved football and never missed a Penn State or NY Giants game. He was a voracious reader and completed every NY Times crossword puzzle. As a new hobby after the age of 70, he wrote dozens upon dozens of Op-Ed pieces that were published in the Sun News, proving that you're never too old to start something new. Art adored his grandchildren and took great pride in their accomplishments as if they were his own. Sometimes described as an old war horse, he had a story or two to tell to those who were lucky enough to hear about his life's adventures.

Services will be held outside under the oak trees at The Abbey at Pawleys Island, 46 Gathering Lane, Pawleys Island, SC 29585 on October 5, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers in memory of Art, please send donations for the Marine Corps League Grand Strand Detachment's educational scholarship program known as the "Art Blenk Scholarship". Checks or money orders should be made to the "Marine Corps League Grand Strand Detachment 873" and sent to the following address:

Marine Corps League Grand Strand Detachment 873 Attn: Commandant (Art Blenk Scholarship Fund)

P.O. Box 1104 Murrells Inlet, SC 29576.

Sign an online guestbook at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com) Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.





# Historian

**Frank Faulkner** *faulkf@aol.com*

## HERITAGE

**Co de of Conduct:** (excerpt from *Warrior Culture of the U.S. Marines*, copyright 2001 Marion F. Sturkey)

During the Korean War in the early 1950s, the Chinese Army and North Korean Army captured some American military men. These American prisoners then faced a deadly new enemy, the *Eastern World's* POW environment.

For the American prisoners, brutal torture, random genocide, lack of food, absence of medical aid, and subhuman treatment became a daily way of life. Many of the Americans found that their training had not prepared them for this *new battlefield*.

After the war the American armed forces jointly developed a Code of Conduct. The President of the United States approved this written code in 1955. The six articles of the code create a comprehensive guide for all American military forces in time of war, and in time of peace. The articles of the code embrace (1) general statements of dedication to the United States and to the cause of freedom, (2) conduct on the battlefield, and (3) conduct as a prisoner of war.

The new Code of Conduct is not a part of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Instead, the Code of Conduct is a personal conduct mandate for members of the American armed forces throughout the world.

**Article I:** I am an American, fighting in the armed forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give my life in their defense.

**Article II:** I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist.

**Article III:** If I am captured, I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.

**Article IV:** If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information nor take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

**Article V:** When questioned, should I become a prisoner of war, I am required to give name, rank, service, number, and date of birth. I will evade answering further questions to the utmost of my ability. I will make no oral or written statements disloyal to my country and its allies or harmful to their cause.

**Article VI:** I will never forget that I am an American, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America.



## Toys for Tots

**Tim Callahan** *Callahan.timothy@yahoo.com*



The 2020 season for Toys For Tots kicked off officially on October 1.

Our Department has 10 Detachments that sponsor an annual program and this year will more than likely be the most challenging that any of them have experienced thus far.

Across the country we still have record levels of unemployment due to both temporary and permanent shutdowns of many businesses. Many of the bread and butter mom and pop stores of local communities have gone out of business.

South Carolina has not been immune to those conditions. Many of our residents have livelihoods that depend not only directly but indirectly as well upon a vibrant restaurant and hospitality industry. We did not have that so far in 2020.

We expect greater requests for assistance this year based upon the local economies, we also expect lower levels of donations due to people either out of work or not having the same levels of disposable income that they may have enjoyed in past years.

We need all of the help that we can get to support our local Toys For Tots programs, those that the Department supports through its local coordinators as well as those that we support that are coordinated by the various Reserve Units in South Carolina.

If any program is having difficulties where they feel they need help let me know so that I can share that with our other programs and maybe we can make some lemonade out of lemons this year.

Tim Callahan  
*Callahan.timothy@yahoo.com*





# Protocol Officer

**Bob Burns** *difrompi@*

## How many of you have heard of Sergeant Simeon A. Stearns?



Explorer, military leader, Quartermaster Sergeant US Marine Corps. Born March 14<sup>th</sup> 1815, the son of Captain Simeon Stearns and Lydia Bailey. Simeon was also a descendent of Isaac Stearns who settled Watertown MA in 1630. Stearns was responsible for the protocol for all Marine activities of the US Exploring Expedition or the Wilkes Expedition.

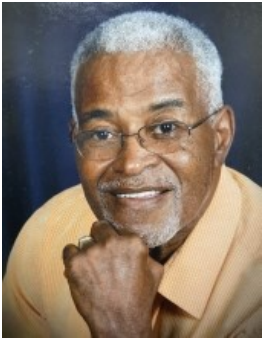
According to his enlistment papers he was a “fancy dyer” prior to enlistment. He entered the US Marine Corps on 8 October 1833 for a 4-year enlistment. He was stationed at the US Marine Barracks New York and the US Navy Yard in Washington City. He served with the Marine Detachments aboard the USS Pioneer and US Brandywine. While on board the USS Brandywine he served a cruise in the Pacific along the South American Coast where he was promoted to Corporal effective 23 December 1835. Stearns re-enlisted 11 May 1837 for another 4 years while earning his Sergeant stripes later the year. He was assigned as Quartermaster Sergeant in charge of the US Marine Detachment of Marines for the

US Exploring Expedition. Stearns was stationed on the flagship USS Vincennes. His assignment allowed him to circumnavigate the globe which in January of 1840 made the discovery of the Antarctic. Quartermaster Sergeant Stearns abilities were mentioned in official accounts of the expedition as well as personal journals of several officers and diaries of Pacific Northwest missionaries. Quartermaster Sergeant Stearns visited every continent and outer island being among the first humans to do so. He provided armed escort and security on every major overland mapping expedition in Hawaii and again overland to California from Oregon. While escorting naturalist William Brackenridge near Mount Shasta he discovered a plant later named the darlingtonia fly catcher plant.

He returned to New York harbor with the expedition on June 10, 1842. Simeon's life after the expedition and his burial are unknown at this time. He may be buried in the family plot or cemetery as his brother David Stearns is buried there. Stearns Bluff, the highest point on the South shore of Grays Harbor in present day Washington State, was named for him and placed on one of the maps from the U.S. Exploring Expedition.

# DETACHMENT ROLL CALL

## **DETACHMENT #410 JULIAN DUSENBURY**



### **Detachment Commandant Leslie Gregg Sr. Obituary**

Mr. Leslie Delano Gregg, Sr. was born on July 15, 1946 in Florence, South Carolina. He was the son of the late Horace Burns and Lillian Grainger Gregg. He peacefully entered into eternal rest on Friday, August 28, 2020 at McLeod Regional Medical Center.

Leslie was educated in the public schools of Florence County, and was a 1964 graduate of Wilson High School, where he played football and ran track. Because of how he excelled during his football tenure, he was elected to the Wilson High School Hall of Fame. In 1965, Leslie, along with his brother, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served in the Vietnam War. After being Honorably Discharged from the military and returning to Florence, he attended Florence-Darlington Technical College, where he received an Associate's Degree in Diesel Mechanics. He was later employed with and retired from Ryder Truck Rental Company as a mechanic after 32 years of service.

Leslie was a member of Mount Zion AME Church, where he was the church Treasurer, a member of the Sons of Allen, the Sanctuary Choir, the Male Choir, the L.B. Burgess Ensemble, the Male Usher Board, the Culinary Department and the Steward Board. He also was a member of Post 228, where he served as the Sargent of Arms. He also served as the first black Commandant, of the Marine Corps League, Julian D. Dusenbury Detachment #410 in Florence.

In 1968, he was united in Holy Matrimony to Anne E. Nelson, and the couple recently celebrated 52 years of marriage. Leslie was known as a father to many children in the neighborhood.

In addition to his parents, Leslie was preceded in death by his stepfather, McKinley Gregg; his two sisters, Gertrude Gregg Ashley and Peggy Gregg Adams; and one brother, Lloyd K. Gregg.

Leslie leaves to cherish his love and memories: his loving and devoted wife, Anne E. Gregg; two sons, Chris Gregg and Leslie D. (Sonya) Gregg, Jr.; two daughters, Lachelle Byrd (Milton) Frederick and Barbara Gregg; fourteen grandchildren; seven great-grands; one sister, Billie Gregg Kelly; one brother, Wesley A. (Sharon) Gregg; one sister-in-law, Lois Gregg; special niece and nephews he raised as his own: Joey, Timothy and Ashley Nichole Taylor; special friends: Ernest and Betty Scipio, Partee Bell and Larry Brown; and a host of other loved ones and friends.



## **DETACHMENT # 939 JAMES L. HAMMONDS**

Det. #939 held a remembrance of Victory over Japan at our local at Memorial Park on September 2nd.



## **USMC FILM REPOSITORY @ University of South Carolina**

**Beth Well**  
**USC Libraries Director of Development**  
**803-777-1909**  
[wellbeth@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:wellbeth@mailbox.sc.edu)



As USC Libraries Director of Development, Beth is tasked with raising the \$2 million needed to support the U.S. Marine Corps Film Repository. Three years ago, USC started receiving tapes, home movies and recruiting film from various sources to digitize the USMC history. The collection has almost 1,600 clips on their website from Korea, Vietnam, etc. and can be viewed on their website. <https://digital.library.sc.edu/marinecorps/>

For giving opportunities, please contact Ms. Wells directly.

## DETACHMENT #803 LOW COUNTRY

Top Left: Trident Baptist Church (Pastor Eric Tharp) hosted the end of World War II Event.

Top Right: Far Right (Victor Lugo, Norman Smith and John Tharp).

Bottom Left: Army Veteran from World War II Robert Hennessee was in attendance.

Bottom Right. After the ceremony all Veterans were awarded a challenge coin and there was a dedication of three newly installed flag poles. The American flag, South Carolina and the Christian flag. The American flag is the tallest in Goose Creek, SC.





## DETACHMENT # 1105 OWENS-KENNEMORE

The August and September meetings were held via Zoom so members could still participate in the meetings.



Bob Burns, pictured on the left presented Member Jr. Vice Cmdt. Tom Fowler and his wife Associate member, Joey with a 50th Wedding Anniversary gift.

Congratulations to both!

At the Sept. meeting Scottie Cross was sworn in as an Associate member by Detachment Judge Advocate, Jim Stone.



## Practicing for the National Pistol Match

Members had breakfast at 0700 at Stax Original in Greenville and then went to shoot at Sharpshooters.



## **DETACHMENT # 1202 SUMTER**

Detachment 1202 in Sumter celebrated its 15-year anniversary at the July 2020 meeting.

The VFW where we meet was decorated in red, white & blue -- complete with flowers on the tables -- and everyone enjoyed a steak dinner in honor of the occasion.

We had a great turnout in spite of the Covid 19 restrictions, which says a lot about the dedication of our members.

We are very proud of our Detachment .







## UPSTATE YOUNG MARINES

James Roberts *hardcharger49@yahoo.com*

### Young Marines Adapting to the Social Changes

The Young Marines have made many adjustments with the current pandemic, throughout which the group has remained flexible and positive. Our meeting location has changed each month and we are grateful to the various organizations that have allowed us to meet at their locations as we abide by the new regulations. We are finding new ways to serve our community and have started an “Adopt a Road” project in August, collecting over 35 large bags of trash. While abiding by our state and local laws, the unit is still able to meet and continue doing positive things in our communities. After our 2020 new recruit graduation in April, and a retirement ceremony in June, we currently have 50 Young Marines in the program.





## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY UNIT**

### **LEWIS G. WATKINS**

Hello Everyone,

Even though there is not much happening, the summer seems to have flown by. Our installation ceremony was held at our July meeting and we did not meet in August. We hope to return to a regular schedule of meeting every third Tuesday evening at 6:00. The location is yet to be determined.

Upcoming programs/projects for the Lewis G. Watkins Unit include participation in the Detachment's ceremony to honor the memory of our namesake on October 7<sup>th</sup>. We will also be looking forward to the kick off for Toys for Tots. We will repeat our flag project prior to Veterans' Day. Our collections include health and paper products for the Rosa Clark clinic tabs for Ronald McDonald House and snacks for the local Back Pack Program.

We need to remember every day all of our soldiers and their families and thank them for their service. The following came to me as an e mail and I would like to pass it on because I thought it was a great idea.

Red Friday: Very soon you will see a great many people wearing red on Fridays to recognize that the vast majority of Americans support our troops. Hopefully, this will make "the U.S. a sea of red to let our troops know that we support them". We can do this!

Semper Fi,

Joyce Brickett

PNVP Southeast Division

Madam Big Flea 2019-2020 (21)

Lewis G. Watkins Unit Secretary

MCLA

## **MCLA UNIT- HOLY CITY, CHARLESTON**



### **Unit President**

**Lynn Cortright** *dentalgirlrda@yahoo.com*

Here in Charleston the weather is getting cooler and it's time to inspire members to get out there and do what we were called to do.

But what to do since what we have been hearing about events is, they have been cancelled due to Covid? Not to mention, there have been riots, burning, and lawlessness. How to inspire people given the current circumstances? I think it's a matter of how we chose to think about this situation. So, on our group page I wrote what I think this Covid should really mean;

C – Continue

O – On

V – Volunteering

I – In

D – Devotion (to God, country, and the Corps)

We need God, country, and Corps spirit here. Our next meeting is all about how acts of service can bring us and those we serve a better outlook on the world which is now so confused. Slowly we have been allowed to see each other with masks and social distancing. So, in the spirit of Semper Fidelis, we shall press forward to face COVID in a new light, with renewed energy, giving hearts and helping hands. May the Great Commander be with us all during these uncertain times and keep us safe until we all gather home.

Lynn Cortright

Holy City Unit President

Charleston, SC

# 2021 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

## WELCOME TO HILTON GREENVILLE Marine Corps League SC Annual Convention 2021 JUNE 10-13, 2021

We are delighted to host you for your 2021 Convention at Hilton Greenville! Our property offers dynamic views from every angle – close enough to see the skyline of downtown and take part in the rich culture of our community while enjoying a green view from your guest rooms overlooking the Carolina Foothills. Our property and staff are sure to delight you with our warm hospitality while you focus in on meetings & socializing, while savoring Southern cuisine with the quality of service only a Hilton can offer. We look forward to hosting you soon!



Visit [greenvillesc.hilton.com](https://greenvillesc.hilton.com) and use code 'MCL21' to receive the exclusive discounted group rate of \$129+/night. Book by 5/10/2021.

45 W Orchard Park Drive  
Greenville, SC 29615  
864 232 4747



**Hilton**  
CleanStay

with  protection

**Hilton**  
EventReady

with Cleanstay

24-Hour  
Fitness  
Center



Complimentary  
Guest  
Parking



**Hilton**  
GREENVILLE



Jim Stone, Convention Committee Chair will have more information at the Quarterly.



# AROUND THE SOUTHEAST DIV.

## 2021 SE DIVISION CONFERENCE



The Choctaw Detachment of the  
Department of Louisiana  
Invites You To Attend  
the SE Division Conference of the Marine Corps  
League  
in  
2021 in BATON ROUGE LA

**CROWNE PLAZA EXECUTIVE CENTER**  
**4728 Constitution Avenue, Baton Rouge | LA | 70808 | 1-225-925-2244**  
**Room Rate 109.00 plus tax**  
**Breakfast Included**  
**USE CODE: MCL**

**Online:**  
**Banquet Registration,**  
**Credential Form,**  
**Sponsorship Form,**  
**Ad Journal Flyer,**  
**Schedule of Events &**  
**Safety Rules.**

<http://mclbatonrouge.org/2021-sediv-conference.html>



★ Designed by TownMapsUSA.com

# NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

**The 2020 National Convention in Daytona was canceled due to the Coronavirus.**

**Americanism and Newsletter Competitions were canceled.**

## Ship Store is open for business.



**\$8.00-13.00**



**\$31.00**



**\$5.00**

Visit [mcnational.org](http://mcnational.org) for more items. Some items are still on backorder.

# 98TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

## WELCOME MCL, MCLA, DEVIL DOGS and FLEAS

Welcome to the Department of Illinois 2021 MCL National Convention at the WYNDHAM

Springfield City Centre  
700 E. Adams Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
**PRIMARY HOTEL INFORMATION**

Block Open Date: August 17, 2020  
Block Cutoff Date: July 15, 2021

To Call in Reservations: 217-789-1530 x1 and ask for "MCL National Convention"

Rate = \$115.00 plus tax (currently 13%) Rate includes parking and breakfast for two.

### Amenities:

Complimentary shuttle service to and from the Springfield airport, train station, and bus station. Indoor Pool with an accessible lift.

### Business Center

Complimentary WiFi in your guest rooms and meeting space

### Nick and Ninos Steakhouse

### The Grille

Rise and Grind Café – Soon to be renovated back to a full service Starbucks!

We are pet friendly!

Service animals stay free, otherwise there is a \$50 nonrefundable fee.

## OVERFLOW HOTEL INFORMATION

ALTERNATE HOTEL is right across the street

**PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPRINGFIELD HILTON**

701 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701

Reservations: (217)-544-8800

Room block opens 8/25/2020

### **PERSONALIZED RESERVATION PAGE**

GROUP CODE: MCL

\$115 per night plus tax. Individuals are responsible for room, tax, and incidentals.

Rates include 1 complimentary parking pass per occupied guest room. Rate includes two complimentary breakfasts per room per night.

Visit [mclnational.org](http://mclnational.org) to find the Link for the Local Convention Committee Website for more information and to register for events.

# AROUND THE NATION

**The Marine Corps Marathon has been canceled for the first time in 45-years due Corona virus.**

Weekend events, which include the fun mile, 10 km race and the new 50 km run, will now “shift to virtual-only status.”

Virtual event ‘s registration is open to the public this year!

Entry fees are as follows:

\$45 for the marathon and 50K

\$33 for the MCM10

\$20 for the Semper Fun Mile.



Virtual events need to finished between October 1– November10th, the Marine Corps Birthday.

All entrants will receive a shirt , commemorative bib, patch and/or finisher medal the press release.

Any registrations paid prior to the cancellation will be processed beginning the week of August 6th.

To register, visit [www.marinemarathon.com](http://www.marinemarathon.com)





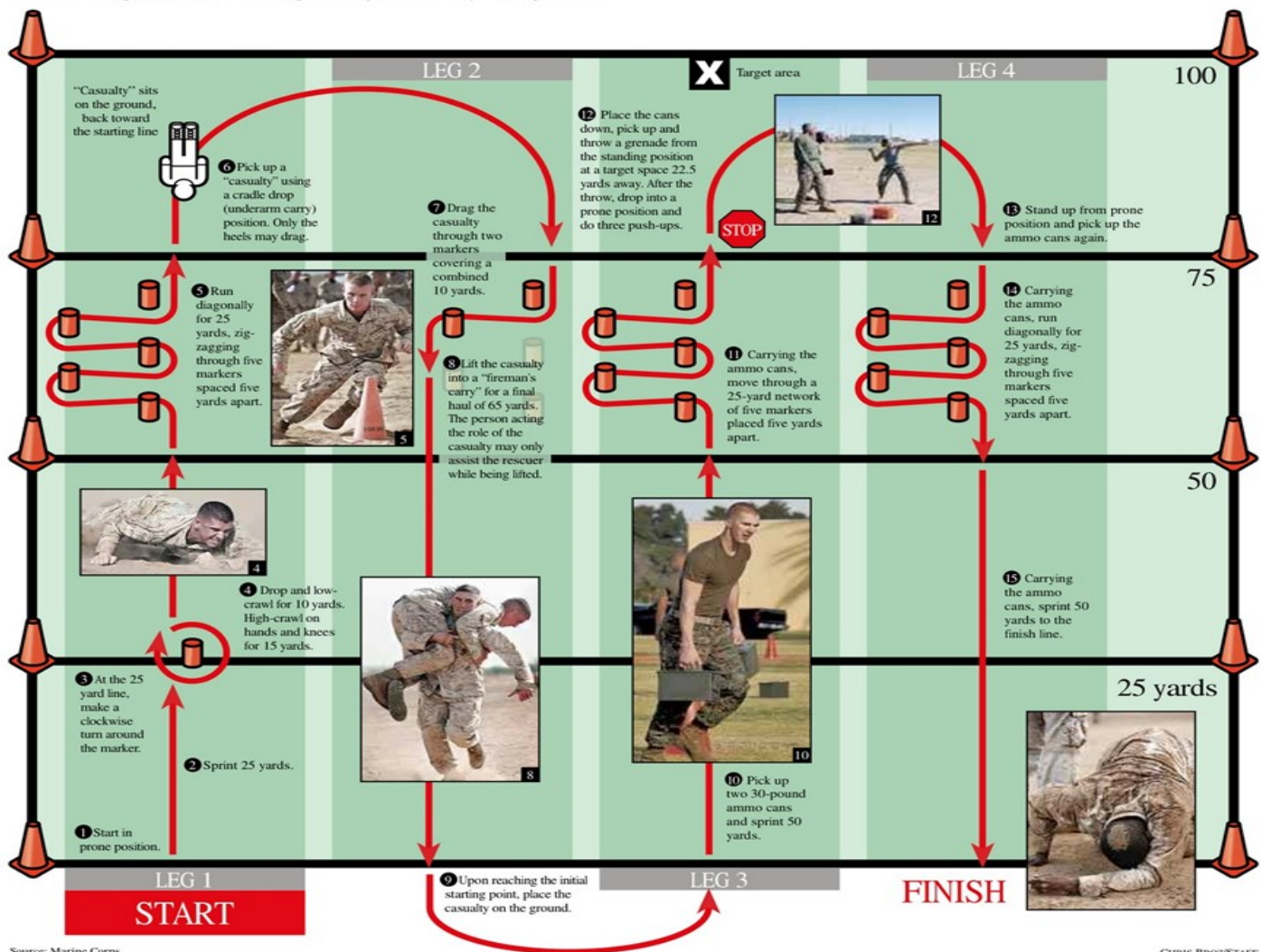
# COMBAT FITNESS TEST FOR ACTIVE DUTY

The Combat Fitness Test is a semi-annual physical fitness test of the United States Marine Corps. The purpose of the CFT is to assess a Marine's physical capacity in a broad spectrum of combat related tasks. The CFT was specifically designed to evaluate strength, stamina, agility, and coordination as well as overall anaerobic capacity. The CFT is a complement to the USMC Physical Fitness Test and measures the functional elements of combat fitness through execution of a series of events that represent every Marine's combat experience, emphasizing the ethos of "every Marine is a rifleman." All active duty and reserve Marines are required to conduct the Combat Fitness Test every year between the dates 1st June to 1st January. The test is designed to test each Marine's ability to perform in a high-intensity setting. The British Army formerly used a test of the same name which is currently known as the Annual Fitness Test.

## THE 'MANEUVER UNDER FIRE' DRILL

The "Maneuver Under Fire" drill is the most complex portion of the new Combat Fitness Test, which also includes a half-mile sprint and a 30-pound ammo can lift. While the Physical Fitness Test will continue to measure a Marine's general fitness, the CFT is designed to complement the PFT by measuring functional

fitness in a combat environment. The CFT will be conducted in a single lane, approximately eight yards wide and 100 yards long. It is presented here across four separate lanes for easy reference.



Source: Marine Corps

CHRIS BROZ/STAFF

# CORONA VIRUS NEWS

## 10 things you can do to manage your COVID-19 symptoms at home

Accessible Version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

### If you have possible or confirmed COVID-19:

1. **Stay home** from work and school. And stay away from other public places. If you must go out, avoid using any kind of public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.



6. **Cover your cough and sneezes** with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow.



2. **Monitor your symptoms** carefully. If your symptoms get worse, call your healthcare provider immediately.



7. **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



3. **Get rest and stay hydrated.**



8. As much as possible, **stay** in a specific room and **away from other people** in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available. If you need to be around other people in or outside of the home, wear a mask.



4. If you have a medical appointment, **call the healthcare provider** ahead of time and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19.



9. **Avoid sharing personal items** with other people in your household, like dishes, towels, and bedding.



5. For medical emergencies, call 911 and **notify the dispatch personnel** that you have or may have COVID-19.



10. **Clean all surfaces** that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, and doorknobs. Use household cleaning sprays or wipes according to the label instructions.



CS15822-A 07/01/2020

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# NATIONAL & DEPT. OFFICERS

National Commandant	Dennis Tobin	dtobin@mcleague.org
Natl Sr Vice Commandant	Johnny Baker	jbaker@mcleague.org
Natl Jr Vice Commandant	Warren Griffin	wgriffin@mcleague.org
National Judge Advocate	TJ Morgan	tjmorgan@mcleague.org
Natl Jr Past Commandant	Wendell Webb	wwebb@mcleague.org
National Uniform	Butch Raynes	rr0047@sccoast.net
National Young Marines	Bill Davis	natdirector@aol.com
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Wounded Warrior	Butch Raynes	rr0047@sccoast.net
Awards Committee Chair	Larry Frelin	sclarryguy@aol.com
Newsletter Chair	John & Cathy Stump	jcstump@hargray.net

For a complete list of National Officers visit: [mclnational.org](http://mclnational.org)

# DATES TO REMEMBER



**October 10, 2020**

**Dept Quarterly @ 9:00 AM**  
**Scottish Rites on Garners Ferry Rd.**  
**Columbia, SC**  
**Bring Unused raffle tickets/\$\$\$\$**  
**Bring Soda/beer can tabs**

**January 2021**

**Dept Quarterly**  
**Time and location to be announced**

**Feb. 11-12, 2021**

**Modern Day Marine-West**  
**Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton**

**Feb. 25-27**

**National Mid-Winter Conference**  
**Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel**  
**777 Waterside Dr, Norfolk VA**  
**800-325-3535/757-622-6664**

**May 4-6, 2021**

**Modern Day Marine Expo**  
**Camp Pendleton**

**June 10-13, 2021**

**Department Convention**  
**Greenville, SC**  
**Info to be announced in October 2020**

**August 2021**

**National Convention**  
**Springfield, Illinois**  
**See page 23.**