

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**  
**Department of South Carolina**

**Minutes**  
**Department Convention**

**April 21-24 ,2022**

Sheraton Hotel,  
2101 N Oak Street,  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

**Opening Ceremony**

**Myrtle Beach High JROTC Color Guard-Colors**

**Myrtle Beach High School Band-National Anthem**

**Mayor Brenda Bethune** Welcome to Myrtle Beach and Proclamation for Marine Corps League

**Introduction of Dignitaries**

Jerry Holt- National Vice Commandant Southeast Division, Past SC Commandant  
Michael Waluk -National Vice Commandant Northeast Division  
Jim Powell- Past National Vice Commandant Northeast Division, National Chief of Staff  
Butch Raynes- Past National Vice Commandant Southeast Division  
Jim Smith – Past Assistant Division Vice Commandant & Worthy Past Pack Leader  
Rick Thomason -Department of NC Commandant  
Jeff Jones –Honorable Junior Vice Chief Devil Dog Kennel  
Dan Hoffman –Worthy Past Pack Leader, Past National Vice Chief Devil Dog Southeast Division  
Jim Hill - Assistant Vice Chief Devil Dog Southeast Division, South Carolina Pack Leader  
Lynn Cortright -MCLA Southeast Division Vice President

**COMMANDANT:** opening remarks.

- Welcome
  
- Plan for the day.
  - Officer reports and the normal agenda items
  - Convention report
  - Jim Stone will handle the election process & installation of Department Officers
  - Lunch
- 1315 Past Pack Dog of Year Recipients Meet for selection of 2022 Pack DOY
- 1400 25<sup>th</sup> Grand Growl of South Carolina Pack
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**Roll Call of Department of South Carolina Officers****ALL Present**

Commandant	Jim Stone
Senior Vice	Helen Breen
Junior Vice	Wade Rhoney
Judge Advocate	Buddy Ferguson
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry Holt
Paymaster	Jerry Holt
Adjutant	Jim Hill
Sgt. at Arms	Tom Ayers
Chaplain	Jeremiah Palmer

***Commandant's Roll Call******4 Detachments Not Represented***

#410	Julian D. Dusenbery	Charles Caldwell	
#803	Low Country	Helen Breen	
#829	Palmetto Marines	Keith Martin	
#873	Grand Strand	Chris Williams	
#939	James Hammons	Claude Davis	
#1105	Owens/Kennemore	Barretta Splawn	Judge Advocate
#1106	Upstate Marines	Hadji Harper	
#1112	Lakelands Marines	Sammy Lewis	Absent
#1123	Olde English Leathernecks	Rich O'Connell	
#1131	Lewis G. Watkins	Robert Walker	Absent
#1132	Riverfront Marines	Linda Roach	
#1134	Hutchings/Caldwells	Claude (Chuck) Davis	
#1141	H. E. "Speedy" Wilson	Beulah Scott	
#1145	James Howe-Luke Cisson	Craig Bayliff	Absent
#1146	Kershaw County Leathernecks	Wayne Farmer	
#1154	Yellow Footprints	Ron West	Chaplin
#1169	Lancaster County Leathernecks	Kevin Waiters	
#1194	Broad River Leathernecks	Frank Sossamon	Absent
#1202	Sumter	Harry Thompson	
#1219	Greater Pee Dee Devil Dogs	Lixander Henry	
#1227	Barnwell County Leathernecks	Nigel Abner	
#1259	Greater Orangeburg +++Leathernecks	Willie R. Dash	
#1432	Little River Detachment	Jim Powell	

## Report of Officers

### Sr. Vice Commandant - Helen Breen Awards

- Marine of the Year / Assoc of the Year process

### V. Fisher Board of Trustees award:

Helen Breen  
Jerry Holt  
Buddy Ferguson  
Jim Hill

### Distinguished Citizen Silver:

Jim Breen  
Jeremiah Palmer  
Deb Stone  
Tom Ayers

### Jr. Vice Commandant – Wade Rhoney

No report

### Judge Advocate – Buddy Ferguson

- Proposed National Bylaw changes posted on National Website.
  - New process at National Convention
    - Review prior to convention
    - Be prepared to vote on each item.
    -

### Paymaster – Jerry Holt

- Financial report
- FY 2022-2023 Budget proposal / vote

motion, a second, and a vote of approval to

**Commandant Motion to accept paymaster report** pending audit by Jim Smith  
**2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Ayers Motion Passed**

**Motion to** amend the just-adopted 2022-2023 budget to authorize the contribution of \$200 to the Marine Corps League Foundation Scholarship Fund. By Dan Hoffman **2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich O’Connell Motion to amend Passed**

### Adjutant – Jim Hill

- Officer Installation reports forms Profile ID and MCL member #

**Commandant Motion to accept adjutant’s report** as posted by Kevin Patton  
**2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Faulkner Motion Passed**

**Chaplain – Jeremiah Palmer**

**FALLEN MARINES AND ASSOCATES JUNE 2021-APRIL 2022**

1. Michael McDaniel
2. Larry Shunkwiler
3. Richard Karp
4. Howard Register
5. Joe Minshew
6. Joe Brown
7. Carl Gullledge
8. James Reese
9. Mary Perrone
10. Ronald Short
11. Bernard Nichols
12. Richard Porter
13. Edward Westbrook
14. Charles Simpson
15. William Jones
16. John Keller
17. Raymond Hickey
18. Jeffery Eriean
19. Clifford Christy
20. Jim Mazur
21. William Yesberg
22. Mary Illes
23. Bob Nix
24. Pietr Pankowitz

**Webmaster – Jim Breen**

- Department website
- Events calendar

**MCL Aux –Lynn Cortright**

Membership is growing many activities. Southeast Division needs you

**National Vice Commandant SE Division – Jerry Holt**

Update on SE Division

Modern Day Event coming in May in Washington, DC

**Presentation of streamers from SE Division conference** awarded to:

**Detachments** 803,829,1105,1106,1169,1432 and Northeast Division

## **Commandant**

- Commandant's Corner – Zoom calls
- On-line forms
- Detachment rosters on Demand

## **Upcoming Quarterlies / Conferences / Convention**

- National Convention in Daytona Beach
- SC Dept Quarterly June 18,2022 American Legion Columbia,SC

## **Report of Standing Committees**

- **Americanism** – no report
- **VAVS** – Linda Roach If you have questions or need help call Linda 910-787-2380  
**Commandants there is a report to file** for what is done in your community

**Toys for Tots** – Tim Callahan not present sent report to Department Adjutant

Presented by Commandant\_Stone

The 2021 the TFT program was again successful due to the involvement of numerous MCL Detachments and volunteers.

Since its inception in 1947 Toys for Tots has distributed more than 627 million toys and books to over 281 million children.

In 2021 Toys for Tots reported distributing just over 22.4 million toys and books to over 8.8 million children.

During 2021 they also distributed toys, books and other gifts to about 18,000 children of Afghan refugee families who had been loyal to the United States in various capacities during the two decades of war in their country and who had been granted asylum within the US.

2021 also saw many natural disasters here in our country, perhaps the most notable of which was the large swarth of tornadoes in Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. Toys For Tots provided toys, books, and other gifts to the affected children and families in those areas as well.

Our department has 10 independent programs that are supported by 11 of our Detachments, and we also support three local Marine Forces Reserves units.

In 2021 our independent programs distributed almost 61,000 toys and books to 16,800 children, while the Reserve Units distributed an additional 125,000 toys and books to 24,000 children.

That took a lot of work and dedication from our members, and we need to congratulate them for a job well done.

Looking forward to 2022 campaigns we will have 2 new independent programs led by Department Detachments and two new coordinators succeeding within existing programs. This is great news as we have not had a new program form in years. It is also a testament to our MCL stepping up to the task as the active involvement of our Reserve Forces continues to diminish as their strength levels decline.

A great year in 2021, thanks again to all that made that happen, and let's look forward to continuing our success in 2022.

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- **JROTC** – John Marcucci
  - Boy Scouts** – Donald Barton 13 Eagle awards have been earned this year encouraging more participation by our detachments
- **Public Relations** – Deborah Stone
  - Marksmanship / Legislative** Doc Wilson – spoke with rep Cal Forrest on bill 3598 and Katrina Shealy s968
- **Protocol Officer** Bob Burns No Report
- **Young Marines** – James Roberts- Represented By Barretta Splawn the status of the SC Young Marine units Electric City, Parris Island, Upstate, and new one in Aiken
- **Marine for Life** – Wade Rhoney
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- **Historian** – Frank Faulkner
- We have the platform to document history by using social media; it also helps show the community and new members what we are doing. There was an email sent out in September 2021 requesting help in compiling historical information for the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. So far, I have interviewed Dan Hoffman to get a lot of history, and Jim Hill provided his information on the Commandants. I have pulled information off Detachment website and face book pages. I still need help with each detachment date chartered and where your name was derived from. And any medal of honor winners, Chaplain four Chaplain awards or any historical information. For an example Julian D. Dusenbury Detachment #410:
  - Is the oldest detachment in the Department of South Carolina. The Marine Corps League Detachment #410 in Florence, SC chartered on October 13, 1977. The Detachment was named after Major Julian D. Dusenbury. He was in the Battle of Okinawa on April 1, 1946. Major Dusenbury received the Silver Star, the Navy Gold Cross and the Purple Heart while serving his country. Julian being wounded several times was last shot in his back by a sniper which severed his spinal cord and damaged his liver and kidneys. He had a long recovery, and he was left in a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Julian still had a very active life in the South Carolina Legislature. Major Julian D Dusenbury is laid to rest in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Florence SC. Additionally, the Detachment memorial plaque is located at the Florence Veterans Park in the city of Florence.

## **New Business**

### **Bids for Department Convention 2023**

**Helen Breen** Detachment 803 Charleston, SC

**Motion to award 2023 Convention** to Detachment 803 by Butch Raynes  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael Cortright **Motion Passed**

## **Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center**

Work has begun on a new tiny home neighborhood for military veterans in Myrtle Beach. Construction started on a new two-acre site along 3rd Avenue North and the [Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center](#) (VWHRC) in Little River will manage the facility. The property and project were gifted to Welcome Home by an anonymous local donor, according to Director Scott Dulebohn. Dulebohn said the homes will be around 160 square feet with a full bathroom, a kitchenette, custom furniture and flat-screen TV. So far, 25 tiny houses have been approved with construction on the first 10 beginning in about three weeks. The goal of the community is to need veterans' homelessness in the area.

**Motion to contribute \$500 for the project to build tiny homes for veterans in the Myrtle Beach area to address the homeless issue.**

**Motion By** Michael Cortright **2<sup>nd</sup> by** Wade Rhoney

Wade followed up with a \$100 donation from Owens/Kennemore, Detachment 1105, for the same cause.

**Old Business**

**Next Quarterly Meeting** at American Legion 200 Pickens Street Columbia, SC

**Election of Department Officers – Jim Stone, Department Commandant**

**Elected**

<b>Commandant</b>	<b>Helen Breen</b>
<b>Senior Vice</b>	<b>Robert A “Buddy” Ferguson Jr</b>
<b>Junior Vice</b>	<b>Frankie V Faulkner Sr</b>
<b>Judge Advocate</b>	<b>Claude H. Davis III</b>

**Appointed**

Adjutant - Deb Stone  
Paymaster - Jerry Holt  
Chaplain - Jeremiah Palmer  
Sgt-at-Arms - Kevin Patton  
Web Sergeant - James Breen  
Marine 4 Life - Keith Martin  
Chief of Staff - Vacant  
JROTC - John Marcucci  
Boy Scouts - Don Barton  
Marksmanship / Legislative - Doc Wilson  
VAVS – Thomas Mickel  
Toys for Tots - Tim Callahan  
Americanism - Vacant  
Historian - Frank Faulkner  
PR / Newsletter - Deb Stone  
Protocol Officer -Michael Cortright  
Young Marines - James Roberts

**Installed by Past Commandant Jim Stone**

**Good of the League**

**Closing Ceremony**

*Conducted by newly elected Commandant Helen Breen*

**Adjourned till Banquet**

**Banquet**

**Impromptu Special by Brigid Gore Thank You**

**Banquet Speaker**

**Major General Michael R Regner**

**Banquet Awards**

**Marine of Year** Presented by Dan Hoffman awarded to **Jim Hill**

**Associate of the Year** Presented by *Lynn Cortright* awarded to **Norma Frelin**

**Pack Dog of The Year** Presented by Jim Stone awarded to **Dan Hoffman**

**Pack Dog Robber of The Year** to be Presented by Helen Breen awarded to **Milt Smith**

**Respectively Submitted by:**

**Jim Hill Department of South Carolina Adjutant 2015-2022**

**Thanks to all in such a Great Department for a wonderful ride**

Note to Past Commandant John Tharp,

who signed me on as temporary Adjutant till he could find someone,

We have now found someone

“Congratulations Deborah Stone “I know she will be a great adjutant