



April 2022 — May 2022

SEMPER FI

Newsletter of The Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League



Department of Connecticut Commandant's Corner



back from the Mid Winter Conference, and to me it was a successful event. We heard some ideas on recruiting, information on protocol for Color Guard and Funeral Honors as well as the rules concerning Uniforms. Some Marines were given awards, others were given first aide, but a good time was had by all.

Bob Borka and J. D gave a presentation on the Atlas. This presentation will be made to all dept. Paymasters at the Quad State.

There were presentations of Uniforms and what can and cannot be worn. As well as proper etiquette for Color Guards and Funeral Honors. There were presentations made Toys 4 Tots, The Young Marines, The MCL Foundation, The Chapel of The Four Chaplins and Convention update. There was a performance by David Bray a Navy Corpsman and a speech by Marine/Author Christina Hadwin Zuniga about her journey after she left the Corps.

There were some words from General Gray, The 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps. A presentation for the Marine for Life program and a presentation from Cards for recruits / Semper Toons .

Of course there were some words from the Commandant, and some more from The Chief. There were some awards, some celebrations, a mini Growl and then there was the Banquet. But prior to the banquet is a favorite part of the evening, the Attitude Adjustment portion of the evening. Then a short nights sleep, a long ride home and a new attitude filled with motivation to engage



Department Meetings

April 10th– at Rocky Hill 13:00

June 11th– Dept. Convention TBD

Growls /Glawakus & Pack

Mar. 13th- Rocky Hill 11:00 & 1:00

Newsletters

May 1st- Rocky Hill 11:00 & 1:00

June 10– Grand Growl TBD

June—July submissions due
May 25th

in a new mission.

Registration for the National Convention will open on April first, and I can't wait to get to Daytona. How about you? There will be many places to see and visit, including the Speedway and St. Augustine.

I have decided not to seek a second term as Department Commandant, so Pat McMahon will be seeking the nomination for the Job. I have had a great time being your commandant and I am sure Pat will do a fine job as well. I wish him and all of you good luck going forward as we return to normal and get back to doing all the things we have been away from so long.

Semper Fi
David E. Rosa
Commandant
Department of Connecticut
Marine Corps League

History of The Red Poppy

Department of Connecticut Officers 2021-2022

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We Shall Keep The Faith

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,
Sleep sweet - to rise anew!
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we keep the Faith
With All who died

We cherish, too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led;
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honor of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need.

Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael. When she returned to France she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it

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ANNOUNCEMENT

I WANT YOU!



**FOR THE
MARINE CORPS
LEAGUE**

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The Department of Connecticut is looking for a new Adjutant / Paymaster. You may take one position or do two like I did. I did both for four years. If you are detachment paymaster and like it, then this

would take you to the next level. I would like to move on and try some different things in the Department. By taking this job you will learn a lot more about the league and how things work, or Don't Work depending on the month.

An Honor to Serve

Greetings fellow CT Marine Corps Leaguers. It has been six years since you as a body first elected me to the Dept. of CT MCL Board of Trustees; two years as your Judge Advocate, three years as your Jr Vice Commandant (ugh COVID) and this past year as your Sr. Vice Commandant. Prior to these positions, I served as the New London County Commandant. At this past February Department business meeting, our current commandant, Marine Rosa announced that he would not be seeking a second term as our Department Commandant. As such I will be seeking the nomination for the office of the Department of CT MCL Commandant at our upcoming convention. I have been a League member since 2012. I have held all Board of Trustee offices within my Detachment. I have served as our Pound Keeper and currently serve as our Pound Dog Robber. Additionally I served as the New London County Toys for Tots Coordinator for three campaigns. It has been an honor to serve in all of these positions, and with your continued support it will be an honor to continue serving as your next Department Commandant.

Regards and S/F

Patrick McMahon

Marine Corps Humor

A grandmother has her grandson staying at her house. She wakes up in the morning to find her grandson made her coffee. She praised him saying how proud she was of him and she proceeded to taste the coffee and it was terrible but she didn't want to disappoint him so she smiled and kept drinking. When she was almost to the end of the cup she found little toy soldiers in the cup. She asked, Johnny, why are there soldiers in my coffee? Johnny replied, it's like the song says grandma, "The best part about waking up is soldier in your cup".

A Taliban Army platoon was on patrol when the commander noticed a lone U.S. Marine standing on a hilltop in their area. The commander told two of his soldiers to go take out the Marine, so they dropped their packs and promptly ran as fast as they could toward him. Just before they got to the top, the Marine ran over the other side of the hill. The two soldiers followed. For the next few minutes there were screams and dust flying in the air. Then as quick as it had started, it stopped and the Marine came up on the hilltop. He brushed off his cammies, straightened his cover, crossed his arms and stood there looking at the Taliban soldiers.

The infuriated commander called for a squad to go get the Marine. They promptly ran as fast as they could toward him. Just before they got to the top, the Marine ran over the other side of the hill. The squad followed, and for the next few minutes there were screams and dust flying in the air. Then as quick as it had started, it stopped and the Marine came up on the hilltop. Brushed off his cammies, straightened his cover, crossed his arms and stood there looking at the Taliban soldiers once again.

The commander was really hot now. He ordered the rest of his platoon to attack the Marine. Determined that Taliban soldiers were far superior to one lone U.S. Marine, they had blood in their eyes as they ran up the hill. Just before they got to the top, the Marine ran over the other side of the hill. The bloodthirsty soldiers followed. For many minutes there were screams and dust flying in the air. It continued and continued. Finally, one lone Taliban soldier came crawling back to the commander. His uniform was torn, cuts were all over his body. The commander asked for a report. The lone soldier, trying to catch his breath, replied in a forceful and trembling voice:

"Sir,...run,...it's a trick. There are TWO of them!!!"

John E. "Jack" Savage

John E. "Jack" Savage, 77, beloved husband of Marie (Martinelli) Savage, of Southington passed away on March 27, 2022 at Hartford Hospital with family by his side.

He was born to the late John J. and Dorothy (Taylor) Savage on August 25, 1944 and was a lifelong resident of Southington and a parishioner of St. Dominic Church.

Jack proudly served our country as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps before his honorable discharge in 1967. He was a member and Past Commandant of the Marine Corps League, Hardware City Detachment where he was recognized as Marine of the Year in 2018 and served on the honor squad. He was also a member of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs and recognized as Pack Dog of the Year in 2016. Jack retired from Pratt & Whitney after 38 years as a machinist. He was a long-time fan of the Bos-



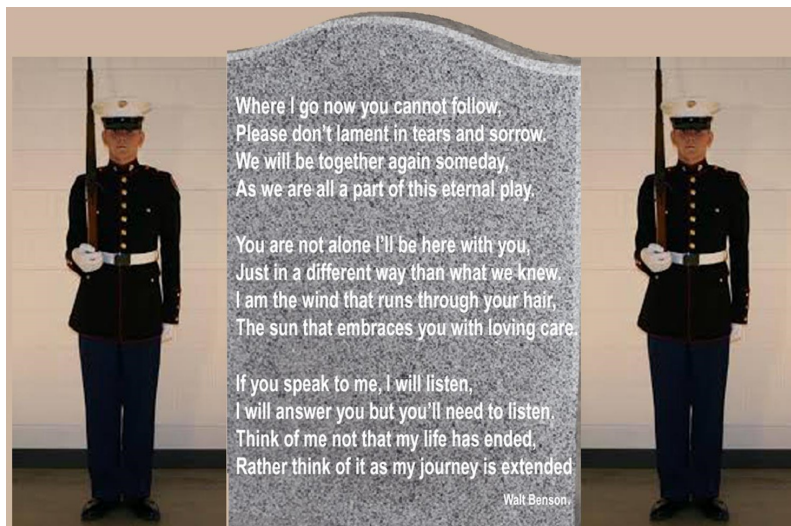
ton Red Sox, UConn basketball and golf. Jack greatly enjoyed his granddaughter's singing and her many wonderful musical performances.

In addition to Marie, his wife of 52 years, Jack is survived by his son: Kevin Savage and his wife Lisa of Glastonbury; daughter: Jennifer Kelley and her husband Ed of Florida; granddaughter Lauren Savage of Glastonbury;

step-grandson: Jordan Kelley; brother: Roger Savage and his wife Eva of North Branford; brothers-in-law: John Martinelli and Ray Silano; sisters in-law: Cathy Martinelli and Carole Silano; and several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the surgical team and ICU staff at Hartford Hospital for their support and compassionate care.

Calling hours for Jack will be held Sunday, April 3, 2022 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Della Vecchia Funeral Home, 211 North Main Street, South-





THE YOUNG MARINES



Greetings, my name is Young Marine Sergeant Major MaKayla Barstow and I am a part of the Natchaug River Young Marines from Danielson, CT. I have been a part of the Young Marines program since 2013, and was named the 2021 Samuel K. Beamon Marine Corps League Young Marine of the Year. I



have been blessed with many opportunities to travel around the country meeting other Young Marines and Adult Volunteers that have had a major influence on my life through-

out my time involved in the program.

Out of all of the trips I've taken, one of my all-time favorites is going out to Camp Rilea in Oregon, for the National Leadership Academy every summer. This leadership school gives upcoming Young Marines the opportunity to learn new things about leadership, and even themselves. They then have the chance to take back the information learned to their Young Marine units and mentor their peers below them. I have attended this leadership school as a student, and as a cadre member, and every experience has been nothing but fun-filled, valuable memories.

This school lasts one week for junior and senior leaders, and two weeks for advanced leaders. Throughout the Young Marines' time at the National Leadership Academy, they overcome many obstacles

physically and mentally. They complete a land navigation course with the help of their teammates, a confidence course, drill evaluations, uniform inspections, a physical fitness test, and endure many influential classes taught by their cadre and guest speakers. It is inspiring as a cadre member to see the students grow a significant amount in such a short amount of time and to see them endure the obstacles that you once had to do too.

Almost every Young Marine arrives at the National Leadership Academy scared, and clueless about what they got themselves into. But by the end of their school, they are all dreading going home, because they have to leave their new best friends, and will miss the motivating atmosphere the academy provides. However, many are ambitious to get back to their units to share all of the new information they learned.



I am looking forward to attending the academy again this June, teaching the Advanced Leadership School, and continuing to educate and inspire the future leaders of the Young Marines program.

Young Marine
Major MaKayla Barstow
Natchaug River Young Marines



RECRUITING "IT'S JOB ONE"!!

Walt Benson



One of the many topic that were discussed at mid winter was recruiting. We recruit between 6 and 8 thousand members a year. I guess that's not a bad number but if we look at the other factors that come in to play, such as the amount of members that die and those we lose that never come back, it's not so impressive. We listened to some ideas for retention when it comes to new members. I remember when I started, everyone was nice and accepting coming around the room to shake hands and say welcome but when the meeting started I was bored to death. Rose program, what is it and why do we care? Services at the monuments for holidays, oh but you need some kind of uniform, undress blues, what the hell is that? Oh yes, I don't have that. I watched the clock saying to myself why am I here and is this all there is? So I made it through my first meeting and came to one more. Then my friend who got me to sign up said, there is a balloon festival, want to go? Do we need undress blues? No just something that says Marines, so I went. There I met Dick Wearne. I used to think dick was just like me, no filters, say whatever is on your mind; but in reality that is all Marines. None of us have filters, we lost them at boot camp. After that everything changed. And that was one of the suggestions that were made at mid winter to get new members involved right away. Give them a job, or an assignment to do. This makes them part of the organization.

But that is once you have them in the league, how are you going to get them there? To the right is an application, put one in your wallet. This way when you talk to someone you can sign them up right there you don't write their number down on a piece of paper you may lose. You don't give them your card which they may lose. Sign them up right there and arrange to pick them up for the meeting. This goes way back, Improvise, adapt and Overcome. Semper Fi
Walt



DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

JOIN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

**MARINES
WANTED**

FIND A DETACHMENT

[HTTPS://WWW.MCLNATIONAL.ORG/FIND-A-DETACHMENT.HTML](https://www.mclnational.org/find-a-detachment.html)



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP—MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Full Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning: _____ Date of Discharge: _____

Type of Application: New () Renewal () Member type: Regular () Associate () Dual ()

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? YES () NO () If yes is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

() I hereby apply for membership in Detachment # _____, MCL and enclose \$ _____ for one year's membership.

() I hereby apply for membership in the MCL as a Member At Large (MAL) and enclose \$30 for one year's membership.

Both types of membership include a free subscription to the Semper Fi Magazine of the Marine Corps League.

I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps on active duty for not less than 90 days, and earned the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor, or have served or am currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than 90 Reserve Retirement Credit Points or that I have served or am currently serving as a U.S. Navy FMF Corpsman who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of 90 days and earned the Marine Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon authorized for FMF Corpsman, or FMF Chaplain. If discharged, I am in receipt of a DD Form 214 with an Honorable (or General Under Honorable) discharge. Honorable Service will be defined by the last Form 214 the applicant received. I hereby provide proof upon request.

Applicant Signature

Sponsor (where applicable)

Upon completion, turn into your Detachment sponsor with required payment. Applicants for Member At Large (MAL) remit form with check or money order in the amount of \$30 to: Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554

MASSACHUSETTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CONVENTION

Convention Registration

You may have one delegate
per TEN paid members

Dates and Location

June 2nd - 5th at Hyannis Double Tree Hilton
Address: 287 Iyannough Rd, Hyannis, MA,
02601

Please call the hotel directly to reserve a room,
and be sure to mention that you are with the
Marine Corps League Convention

Payment ability via website has been finished,
however registration forms are not finished yet.
You may view their progress however. They will
be done shortly.

**Your Detachment must be in good standing
to register. ROI's & IRS 990 reports**

Paper Copies of Registration are available via
the Documents tab / Convention Documents
and they may be mailed to the Department
Paymaster Bernie Heaney.

Arnone	Joe		5	17	
Benson	Lamont	W.	5	8	05/08/48
Berube	Bernie		5	10	05/10/48
Condon	Richard	L.	5	14	05/14/44
Deschaine	Joseph	R.	5	14	
Galgano, Jr	Peter		5	28	05/28/47
Hermanowski	Maryon		5	30	
Hill	Darryl		5	21	05/21/59
Leskiw	Roman	A.	5	14	
Lynch	John	J.	5	28	05/28/36
Machado	Richard	J.	5	21	
Miller	Michael	D.	5	6	05/06/42
Murphy	Daniel	F.	5	7	05/07/46
O'Rourke	George		5	28	
Pizzuto, Jr.	Michael	S.	5	11	05/11/67
Rinaldini	Orlando	J.	5	2	
Valentukonis	Richard	L.	5	8	
Venditto	Carl	R.	5	9	05/09/32
Walker	John		5	24	05/24/43
Billue	Edward		4	12	04/12/45
Buatti	Albert		4	1	04/01/38
Bulawa	Daniel		4	24	04/24/41
Erickson	Donald	G.	4	21	
Gibbons, Jr.	Joseph	P.	4	17	04/17/44
Guay	Dennis		4	1	04/01/51
Hightower	Randall		4	25	04/25/63
Hubert, Jr.	John	J.	4	1	04/01/62
Kelly	Francis	J.	4	2	04/02/36
Linskey	Bryce	F.	4	18	04/18/63
Lipka	Thomas	J.	4	12	04/12/50
Micucci	Salvatore		4	28	04/06/28
Morin	Joseph	G.	4	24	04/24/46
Plona	Peter	A.	4	22	04/22/64
Schumsky	Victor	A.	4	17	04/17/45
Searle, Jr.	Charles	F.	4	13	
St. Laurent	Andre	J.	4	25	
Wearne, Sr	Richard	E.	4	3	





NO ONE LET THE DOGS OUT!!!



At the last Growl it was decided that the Grand Growl may be too late to get our donation from the patch competition. So we will close the competition for TOP DOG on the next Growl which will be May 1, 2022. I will have patches and a few car magnet for anyone interested in obtaining one at Quad State Some come to Rhode Island and have some fun, it should be a good time. At last



count Glawackus had just under what the Division turned in from the profits they made on the patches. It's a good cause and I would love to think that



Glawackus contributed to getting the Kennel to their goal of 100,000 big bones. No matter where we finish though we all know Glawackus is now and forever will be number one. Come to Quad State it isn't far and the more of us that show up, the more fun we are bound to have. It will be

warmer and we will be out of the house, who knows we may begin singing Who Let The Dogs Out?

Walt Benson
Sir Pound Keeper
Glawackus Pound



Daytona Beach 2022

Goal 100,000

Big Bones

Your PDD Awaits



**2022****APRIL****2022**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 	18 TAX DAY	19	20	21	22 QUAD STATE WARWICK RI	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**2022****MAY****2022**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

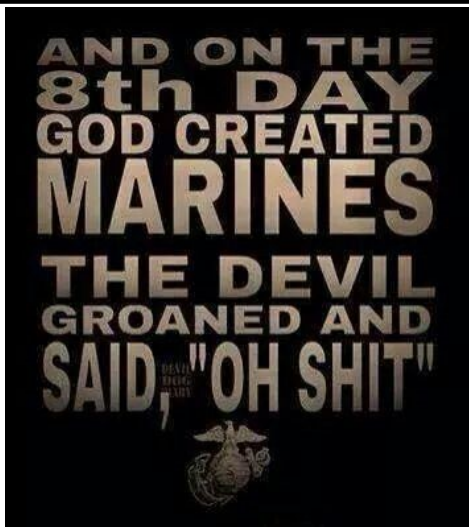
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
						



Regardless of the situation, the Marine Corps has an answer for almost everything.

A Marines Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer.

Marine Corps League National Convention 2022

Daytona Beach Florida

August 15th through August 19th Banquet is Friday August 19th

4 days prior and 4 days after the event at that price.

There are 850 Rooms SEE YOU THERE !!!

800-774-1500

\$127.00 a night Code MCL22

NOW RECRUITING

Become active in the Marine Corps League and you can make a difference.



Attention To Orders

The next meeting of The Department Of Connecticut

October 3 , 2021 Connecticut Veterans Home and Hospital

287 West Street, Rocky Hill, CT, 06067-3501, Building 50



What Started Here.....

Continues Here.....

