



June 2022 — July 2022

# SEMPER FI

Newsletter of The Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League



## Department of Connecticut Commandant's Corner



Hello Marines, I hope to see all of you at the convention. The Grand Growl will be held on Friday evening starting at 18:00. Remember to bring a raffle prize to the Growl. The Grand Growl is always a good time and it always boasts the largest attendance of the year. Elections for the pack will be held that night and if you can please consider becoming an officer in the pack, we need officers even more than we need new pups.

The Memorial Service and business meeting will start at 08:00. We lost a lot of good Marines this year and this is our opportunity to say our final good-byes, as well as remember the good times we spent with them. In the business meeting we will proceed through the order of business as well as present and work with the business conducted in the committees, such as a budget for next year, as many things have changed and will cause us to take a new look and income and expenses.

Are there any new changes to the by-laws being proposed and voted on. The audit committee will report that our finances and



books are in order. Americanism, Marins4Life, Marine of The Year, and Credential Committee.

We will pick the dates for the Department meetings for the year as well as who will host the next Convention. There will also be Raffles and a Banquet and Awards. This is your Convention you have a vital role in all of these events. With a world bouncing back from COVID< Marines need to

reclaim their role in the League as well as the community. So let's start here, See you at the Convention.

### Department Convention

June 10– Grand Growl 18:00

June 11th– Dept. Convention 08:00

June 11th— Banquet 18:00

Hilton Garden Inn

Hartford South/Glastonbury

85 Glastonbury Boulevard,  
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Semper Fi

David E. Rosa

Commandant

Department of Connecticut  
Marine Corps League

# EVERYDAY WE FIND HEROES

## Department of Connecticut Officers 2021-2022

Mathew Bradford had only been in Iraq for four months as a US Marine and his life was changed forever. On January 18, 2007, he was out on patrol when he stepped on an IED, taking both his legs and blinding him. He woke up in Bethesda Hospital three weeks later and spent the next three years recovering. He was not supposed to live but he did. No Legs, No Vision, No Problem !! On April 1, 2010 he was promoted to Corporal and on April 7, 2010, he re-enlisted in the Marine Corps making him the first ever double amputee, blind Marine in History to do that.

Corporal Bradford, has a two and a half year old daughter, Completed a degree at the University of Kentucky, and has run as well as completed several Marine Corps Marathons in Washington DC.

Recently I heard a story which adds to this story and why Marines are different from everyone else. Why is the Lion called the King of the Jungle? He is not the biggest, the elephant clearly claims that role. He is not the fastest, the Cheetah is, nor is he the smartest. So how does the Lion become the King of the Jungle? The Lion is the King of the Jungle because of one word, His Mentality. The Lion welcomes the challenge. That dream that you have, you would have to be wired differently to attain it. It doesn't matter how big you are, or how intelligent you are, or how many degrees you have. It's you ATTITUDE, the Lion doesn't give up, he doesn't quit, he hunts. This is the difference between Marines and all others, OUR ATTITUDES. IMPROVISE, ADAPT, and OVERCOME. Semper Fi, Corporal Bradford, you make us all proud.

**Walt Benson**



Commandant .....	David Rosa 475-224-6885 coyotyhunter1@yahoo.com
Sr. Vice Commandant.....	Pat McMahon 860-222-5024 ptm78usmc@sbcglobal.com
Jr. Vice Commandant.....	Richard Daigle 203-506-8786 poppop.daigle@gmail.com
Judge Advocate .....	George Gutmann Jr. 203-446-6072 ggutmann@preferredtool.com
Sgt. At Arms .....	Ray Burrington 860-918-6880 rayuconn@cox.net
Adjutant/Paymaster .....	Walt Benson 203-768-8435 walt.benson5@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor .....	
Jr. Past Commandant .....	Adele Hodges 203-843-1244 hodgesadele@yahoo.com
Funeral Honors .....	John Reek 860-329-2419 dad7051@gmail.com
Chaplain .....	Jack Dougherty 203-390-1962 usmc1000@comcast.net
The Worthy Pack Leader.....	David Rosa 475-224-6885 coyotyhunter1@yahoo.com
Young Marines Liaison ... ..	Pat McMahon 860-222-5024 ptm78usmc@sbcglobal.com
Web Sergeant .....	Skip Hamel 203-527-8137 hamels52@att.net
Public Relations .....	Sal Sena 860-614-6188 4mermarine69@gmail.com
Historian .....	



## AROUND THE DEPARTMENT AND AROUND THE LEAGUE



### ANNOUNCEMENT

#### I WANT YOU!



**FOR THE  
MARINE CORPS  
LEAGUE**

The Department of Connecticut is looking for a new Paymaster. If you read the article on recruiting you may want to consider this as a stepping stone to taking a leadership position in the League. This would be an ideal time to do it as I

have committed to staying on for this year and if anyone is interested I would be happy to train you for the entire year. That's more training than anyone ever got, and since you would be in training I would be happy to split my pay with you. LOL

### MEMORIES

Back in February, Greg Forbush, was going through some old MCL material and found the Program for the first Hardware City Awards Diner. In that book was the poem below, written by Dick Wearne. Dick was my friend and the reason I stayed with the MCL, and I miss him.

*Our country called upon us  
to do an honored deed.  
We are not ordinary men  
as you will come to see.  
We of the brotherhood are  
a very special breed.  
We are first to fight  
in the air, on land, and sea.  
Proud, you bet we are proud.  
We are United States Marines.*

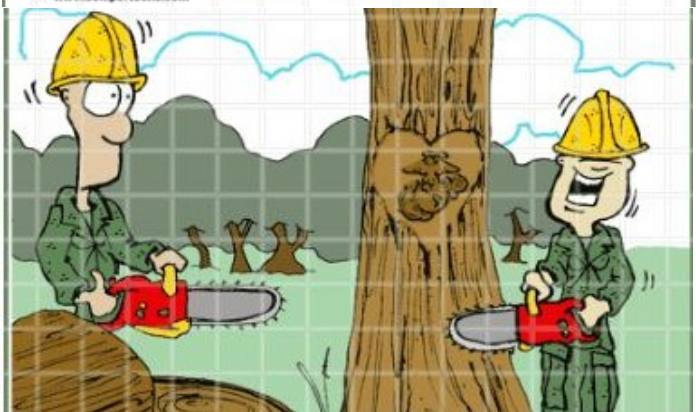
Composed by  
R.E. Wearne, Sr.



### Marine Corps Humor

Hi Mom,  
Boot camp is fine, but I think  
our drill sergeant is a little  
hard of hearing. Every time  
we say something, he yells  
"I can't hear you!"

CS244167





## Samuel E. Smith

**February 20, 1951 to April 24, 2022**

Samuel Earl Smith was born on February 20, 1951 to the late Mr. Grant Smith and Mrs. Marie Smith (nee Glasper) in New Britain, Connecticut. After a long and valiant fight against cancer, Sam transitioned from this life on Sunday night, April 24, 2022 at home surrounded by his beloved wife Janet, their three cherished children Samuel (II), Quincy, and Amber, as well as, daughter-in-law

The youngest of six siblings, Sam 1969. Shortly after graduating from Marine Corps. A veteran of the Vietnam War, the rank of E-4 Corporal. Throughout his who could often be seen around town accepting the "thank you for your service"

Several years after serving in the First, he met, courted, and married Janet July 9, 1976. They became the proud parents of two sons and a daughter and enjoyed

Sam's second highest achievement Connecticut Department of Labor as a Community Service Representative (CSR) where he

assisted unemployed workers with filing claims for unemployment insurance benefits. His kindness, efficiency, and professionalism when working with the public earned him the nickname "Sam, the unemployment man" among many residents in New Britain and nearby surrounding areas. Sam was also so respected by his colleagues that he would become an AFSCME (union) steward where he would utilize the skills of his CSR position to advocate for his co-workers and address grievances and concerns. In 2003, he retired after 25 years with the CT DOL.

In his retirement, Sam was able to return to frequently enjoying his two favorite sports. He would hit the links at Stanley Golf Course as often as possible for some friendly but competitive match play with and against his brother Raymond and other golfers. A loyal Yankee fan, Sam would watch every game and cheer on his Bronx Bombers and was able to attend a couple games in both the old and new Yankee Stadium. He was also able to enjoy old hobbies like going on joyrides in his cars; treating himself to his favorite Italian and Polish pastries; as well as new hobbies, like enjoying the scenic views of Walnut Hill when taking his daily walks.

A life-long resident of New Britain, Sam was a member of St. James Missionary Baptist Church where his faith and acceptance of his Lord and Savior, the clergy, and congregation kept him spiritually nourished on his journey in Christ.

Sam is survived and will be forever missed and cherished by: his darling and devoted wife Janet Smith (nee Buckles), three children, Samuel Earl Smith II and his wife Tara Smith (nee Givens), Quincy Smith, Amber Whitney Smith; all of New Britain, CT; three brothers, James Walter Smith of New Britain, Raymond Smith and his wife Kathy Smith of Murrells Inlet, SC, Grant Smith Jr. of Vernon, CT; one sister, Darlene "Bell" Ankton and her husband Glenn Ray Ankton of Escondido, CA; one aunt, Corine Childs and her husband Mitch Childs of Newington, CT; his two greatest joys, his grandkids, Samuel "Trey Trey" Smith III and Claritie Skye Smith; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends. Sam was predeceased by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Grant Smith, his brother Mack Allen Smith and his wife Judy.

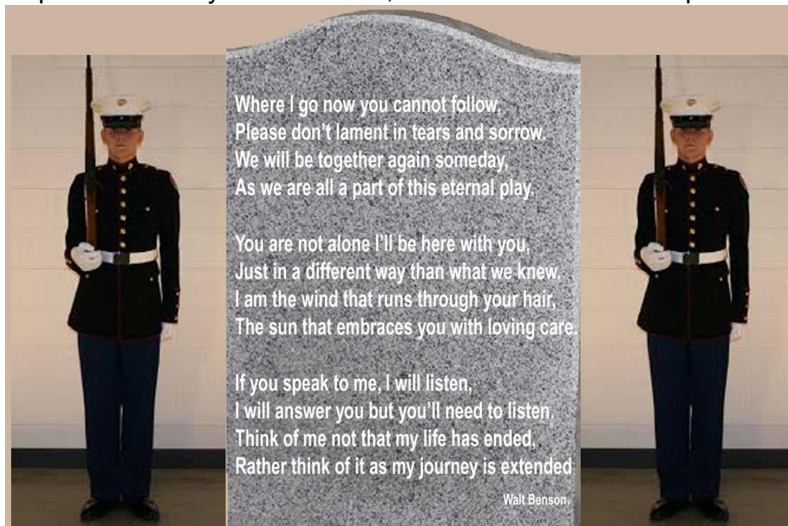
Sam was a kind-hearted, fun-loving, and beloved husband, father, father-in-law, brother, grandfather, uncle, nephew, cousin, friend, and patient to many. To know him, was to love him and his positive spirit and good-nature will live on through his family with the privilege of being a part of his life.

The Homegoing Samuel Earl Smith Saturday, April 30, 2022 at Spottswood A.M.E. Church, 120 Wood Lane New Britain, CT 06053. Calling Hours 12-1:00 p.m. with the funeral service. Following the services, interment with military view Cemetery, 120 Main, CT 06051. Repast Lodge on 24 Elm Street, New Britain is assisting



Tara Smith (nee Givens). graduated from New Britain High School in NBHS, Sam enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He served his country honorably and achieved life, Sam remained a proud Marine (Semper Paratus) wearing his USMC baseball cap and graciously comments from civilians. USMC, Sam's largest achievements occurred. Smith (nee Buckles) in Memphis, Tennessee on

ment was being hired with the State of Connecticut Department of Labor as a Community Service Representative (CSR) where he



ly members and all those Celebration will be held for Saturday, April 30, 2022 Zion Church on 25 Crest-CT 06053. Calling Hours p.m. with the funeral service. Following the services, honors will be held at Fair-Smalley Street New Britain, CT 06051 Carlson Funeral Home, with arrangements.

**Brendan Boyle**, Chaplain  
Hardware City Detachment



# THE YOUNG MARINES



Back in December of 2013 the Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League established a policy for annually recognizing a Young Marine of the Year who either belongs to a CT based Young Marines unit and/or resides in CT. After the death of Marine Sam Beamon, The Dept. of CT named this annual honor as, "The Samul K Beamon Department of Connecticut Young Marine of the Year".

Each February, the Dept. of CT Commandant establishes a committee to participate in a selection panel. This year, PCDD Doug Fisk of the Paul C Houghton Detachment (and a 25+ year adult volunteer in the Young Marines), PDC Adele Hodges of the Greater Bridgeport Detachment, Marine Bruce Katz (New England Division MCL YM Liaison), and Marine Skip Hamel of the Brass City Detachment (himself a former Young Marine and his dad, a Marine, one of the first adults to establish the first Young Marines unit).

In my capacity as the Dept. of CT YM Liaison, I would have chaired this selection board but did not as my wife and I traveled to Vermont to watch our youngest and his college Lacrosse team play in their conference champi-

onship game (they won but lost in the 2nd round of the NCAA tournament).



**Samuel K. Beamon**  
July 27, 1947 - October 28, 2018

Two submissions were received; YM GySgt Rose Barnes of the Natchaug River Young Marines and YM LCpl Paige Langen of the Three Rivers Young Marines. The selection board evaluated these candidates on four topics; the submitted essay, the submitted resume, uniform and appearance, and knowledge and communication skill.

I am pleased to announce that YM GySgt Rose Barnes of the Natchaug River Young Marines has been selected as our 2022 Dept. of CT Samuel K Beamon Young Marine of the Year. Normally I would have introduced her at the business meeting of this coming convention, but YM GySgt Barnes is unavailable as she will be traveling to Oregon to attend the Young Marines National Advanced Leadership School.

YM GySgt Barnes will be attending our August business meeting where she will address those in attendance. A note of thanks to Marines Fisk, Hodges, Katz and Hamel for giving of their time to assist in this event.



Patrick McMahon  
Department of Connecticut  
Young Marine Liaison  
Senior Vice Commandant



# RECRUITING "IT'S JOB ONE"!!

Walt Benson



## BUT WHAT ABOUT LEADERSHIP?

In this issues recruiting section I want to step back and look at recruiting from a different angle. I like quotes and most of the one's I like are made by famous people. Some of them I actually live by like, *Improvise, Adapt, Overcome*. In today's world this is very important. At work most companies out there are micro managed I know mine is, but if you are smart, you know that plan that comes down from corporate, doesn't always work. Therefore, if you want to succeed, you are going to be prepared with a plan B and in some cases a C, D, or E. This is called "IMPROVISE". Then, going forward you have a plan and it works, but it doesn't work for everyone so you need to make changes to that plan, and that is where we "ADAPT". So now you have a plan you have adapted and then you find there are those that stand in your way and keep you from reaching your goal, and this is where you "OVERCOME". This is all out whatever it takes. I recently had my end of season review at work and we had to pick our strongest trait and I chose resilient as mine, and my boss couldn't have agreed with me more. She told me she has never seen anybody that would continuously adjust strategies and come at problems from every different angle, imaginable.

So this is what we are doing here with recruiting, we are constantly adjusting our approach to succeed. If we get people to come join the league, then what? When I joined, there were Detachment Officers and they were a very attentive and friendly group. They went around the room welcoming people and shaking hands with everyone but once the meeting started I was bored to death, and couldn't wait to get out. Today, we don't even have that, most detachments are short of officers to fill positions. The Dogs are having an even harder time filling positions, people have multiple positions and every election the positions rotate to most of the same people. So when new people come into the league what do we show them?

When things changed for me was when I became part of what was going on, what we were doing. Have you ever been asked what is The Marine Corps League and what does it do? The answer I hear the most is, "We are a VSO, (Veterans Service Organization) and we help Veterans. WOW, you are really selling yourselves short, you do so much more. When did Ma-

rines become timid? You provide so much, The Young Marines, Toys4Tots, Funeral Honors, Community Service, help Each Other, and The League. Then there are those who do things that no one knows about. A while back in one of my recruiting articles I wrote about getting out to contact Detachments that didn't come to meetings or any function at all, and I addressed the County Commandants, stating it was their job to reach out to these detachments. Well most times when you write something like that you feel like you're in a Joe Pesci movie, with him saying, "You was serious about that"? But to my surprise I found that one County Commandant, Bill Lamb, The Fairfield County Commandant went out and contacted the Detachments in his county to help them reunite with the Department, and no one even knew he did it. There maybe more Marines that did this as well and I thank them from the bottom of my heart. This is what we need going forward, people standing up and assuming leadership roles. It's not a full-time job and there are others to help if you run into problems. If you take a leadership position that doesn't mean the present officer will take off and go on vacation. They will be there with help and information. Some of them are a walking, History & How To book combined.

You are the leaders, new Marines will look to for, what they want to do, what they want to be a part of, to join us in our Mission. We didn't join the league because we wanted to still wear a uniform, or march in Parades. Nor did we join the League to sit around and tell stories of the old days. We joined the league because we still wanted to serve just as we did when we stood on the Yellow Footprints when we began. However, who we serve has changed. Now we serve our fellow veterans in need, the children of veterans and the communities we are part of. One of our biggest contributions we make is providing Funeral Honors to our brothers and sisters who have gone to their final post. These are all the things we do, and want to continue to do, and to accomplish this we need to get new members and have the leadership to bring them along. So when there is an opening for a leadership role in your Detachment, Department, Pound or Pack, step up to the Yellow Footprints Marine.



# QUAD STATE 2022

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Dave Porter presented Walt Benson with the GY/SGT Roland G. Knapp Award



Dave Porter & Pat Maguire presented Terry Laskey with the Associate Marine of The Year Award

Bechard	Keith	E.	6	28
Boyle	Brendan	P.	6	18
Bunnell	Mary	E.	6	26
Butler	Maceo	T.	6	3
Collins	Ron		6	28
Frederick,	Charles	W.	6	18
Glover	LeRoy	T.	6	9
Guzman	Leonardo		6	11
Hunter	Howard	N.	6	30
Meehan	John	F.	6	13
Mimnaugh	John	D.	6	7
Nieves	Nelson		6	6
Pahl, Jr.	George	H.	6	21
Pittman	LeRoy		6	27
Sakowicz	William	J.	6	20
Scent	Robert	M.	6	29
Sgro	Carlos	M.	6	15
Wenz	Jack	M.	6	27
Adams	Mark	S.	7	22
Adams	Scott	R.	7	8
Benson	Walter	A.	7	6
Boehm	Ronald	R.	7	1
Candelario	Jorge	M.	7	9
Czaja, Jr.	Walter	A.	7	12
Daly	Patrick	E.	7	1
Danielak	Stanley	K.	7	10
Eisenhaure	Myron	G.	7	30
Forbush	H. Gregory		7	24
Formica	Richard		7	1
Gustin	Joseph	J.	7	25
Haggerty	Brian	R.	7	28
Jennings	John	J.	7	29
Jensen	Candice		7	4
Lavoie	Adrian		7	22
McIlroy III	William	J.	7	22
McNutt, Jr.	Otis	H.	7	29
Nevers	Peter	J.	7	6
Olejarz	Stanislaw		7	5
Pasco	Robert		7	31
Valletta	Lawrence	F.	7	17
Wilcox	Howard	M.	7	1





# QUAD STATE 2022



**Col Bill Davis, Dave Porter, Young Marines Color Guard, Pat Maguire, SGT.MAJ. Overstreet**



**National SR. Vice Commandant Warren Griffin, SGT.MAJ. Overstreet, Terry Laskey, Col. Bill Davis, 59th Chief Devil Dog, Tom Hazlett.**



**Bob Borka  
Speaking on the Database**



**Lest We Forget**



**Dave Porter & Pat Maguire presented Larry Chretien with the Division Marine of The Year Award**





# GLAWACKUS!!!!!!!!!!!!



At the Grand Growl, at the Quad State Convention Glawackus Pound made an impressive showing. With 7 Glawacki in attendance, The Pound made an impressive showing. There was a loud showing of support each time a Glawacki stood and identified themselves. PDD Pat McMahan introduced a challenge to all dogs in attendance and with it managed to raise 636 big bones for the Children's Hospital at National. The loud cries of GLAWACKUS went on all evening with the Chief, Tom Hazlett asking what is a Glawackus? It is simple it is the fiercest dog in the kennel. PCDD Doug Fisk offered to make Chief Hazlett and New England Vice Commandant Dave Porter honorary Glawacki, but the foolishly declined. I heard one Massachusetts, dog say, "what they bring the whole Pound"? But no, this was all accomplished by seven enthusiastic Glawacki. There is another Grand Growl for Massachusetts, and another for Connecticut, how dominant can Glawackus be at these two Growls, since we have already seen at this weeks Pack Growl on May 1st that the Glawackus spirit has carried over and seems to have developed a life of its own. I do not have exact figures but the competition between Hooch Pooch and Glawackus seems to be leaning in Glawackus favor. Let's remember we are all part of the Con-

necticut pack, and it was all for the Children's Hospital, have fun and following the Marine Tradition of Breaking Balls.

Walt Benson  
The Proud  
Sir Pound  
Keeper  
Glawackus  
Pound



## Important Notices

Grand Growl— June 10th

Hilton Gardens Glastonbury

Remember to bring a raffle prize to the Growl

September Glawackus POUND GROWL

Elections of Officers

We are looking for New Glawacki

PDD Jim Soder will be running for Pound Keeper

I have not heard from anyone else of there intentions

**Daytona Beach 2022**  
**Goal 100,000**  
**Big Bones**  
**Your PDD Awaits**



**2022****JUNE****2022**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1	2 <b>MASS CONVENTION</b> 	3 	4 
5 Department of Connecticut Meeting 13:00	6 Peter P. Monaco 19:00	7	8	9	10 <b>CT CONVENTION</b> 	11 
12 Valley Det. Meeting 19:00	13 Housatonic Det. Meeting 19:30	14 Thames River Detachment 19:00 	15 Mahackemo Det. 20:00 Brass City Det. 19:30 Hardware City	16	17	18
19	20	21 Silver City Det. Southington Me- morial Det. 19:00 Hat City Det. 20:00	22 Lock City Det. 19:30 Ridgefield 19:00	23 Paul C. Houghton 19:00	24	25
26	27 VICTORY AT BELLAU WOODS  THE NAME DEVIL DOG WAS EARNED	28	29	30		



**2022****JULY****2022**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

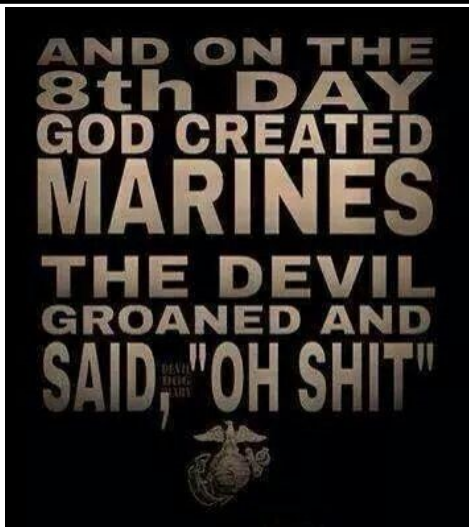
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2
3	4 	5 NW Det. 19:00 BPT Det. 19:00	6 	7	8	9
10 Valley Det. Meeting 19:00	11 Housatonic Det. Meeting 19:30	12 Thames River 19:00	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Hat City Det. 20:00 Silver City 19:00	20 Lock City Det. 19:30	21 <b>SAMUEL K. BEAMON DAY OF SERVICE</b>	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 DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT CONVENTION

JUNE 10 & 11 AT

HILTON GARDEN INN

85 GLASTOBURY BOULEVARD, GLASTONBURY CT 06033



What Started Here.....

Continues Here.....

