

October 2025 — November 2025



Newsletter of The Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League

### SIMPER FIDES

#### **Department of Connecticut Commandant's Corner**





Leaves are falling, autumn is calling. Happy fall, y'all.

The onset of fall means the League is entering its busy season, for all veterans, not just Marines.

We should have participated in ceremonies honoring the victims of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001. That was a tragic and momentous day in our history, followed every year by somber gatherings nationwide. **Never forget!** 

We do not have a lot going on in October but for many of us, it signals the beginning of Toys for Tots campaigns. TFT is probably the effort that brings us the most exposure as a Department. If your Detachment does not participate in a TFT drive, Commandants should provide a list of potential collection sites and share it with the closest participating Detachment so they may expand their territory.

On the other hand, Detachments should never expand into another's area without approval from the other Detachment's Commandant. This is in keeping with the TFT guidelines.

And just wait for November! It is probably our busiest month with Veterans Day and the Marine Corps Birthday events.

Some Detachments will have birthday balls, dinners, and other such events. Show your Marine pride and attend as many celebrations as you can.



The Department of Connecticut is sponsoring a cake cutting ceremony in the rotunda of the state capitol building at 1300 on 10 November 2025. All League members, active-duty Marines, and their families are invited.

We have a small committee working out the details, which will be shared soon. Pencil this event on your calendars.

If any member would like to assist the committee, please contact Peter DePaola or me. We will have a Zoom meeting on Friday, 26 September at 1900.

Commandants, please watch your emails for important information on endof-year reports. Please ensure that your ROIs, 990s, and other compliance reports are completed.

> Semper Fidelis. Rich Daigle

#### IMPORTANT DATES

### Department of Connecticut Officers 2025-2026

#### **Detachment Meetings**

**Brass City Detachment 31-**First Tuesday 17:00 Peter P. Monaco Jr. 40-First Monday 19:00 Northwest Detachment 42-First Tuesday 19:00 Ridgefield Detachment 44-Third Wednesday 19:00 Silver City Detachment 45 Third Tuesday 19:00 **Southington Memorial 46-**Third Tuesday 19:00 Valley Detachment 48-Second Sunday 19:00 **Bridgeport Detachment-654** First Tuesday 19:00 Paul C. Houghton-681 Third Tuesday 19:00 Hardware City Detachment—781 First Wednesday 19:00 **Housatonic Detachment-1129** Second Monday 19:30 Thames River Detachment-1334 Second Tuesday 19:00

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#### **GLAWACUS Pound & PACK GROWLS**

#### Sept 8 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Peter Monaco

Nov 2 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Rocky Hill

Jan 4 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Rocky Hill

Mar 1 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Valley Det.

May 3 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Rocky Hill

June Grand Growl TBD

#### **Department Meetings 2025-2026**

DATE LOCATION FOOD

AUGUST 24 Rocky Hill HOUSATONIC

OCTOBER 5 Rocky Hill HRDWARE CITY

DECEMBER 14 Rocky Hill BRASS CITY

FEBRUARY 1 Rocky Hill BRIDGEPORT

APRIL 12 Rocky Hill NVCDD

JUNE TBD





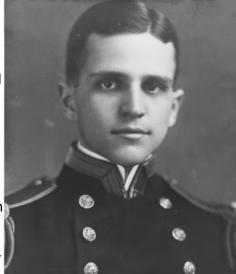
### The Navy officer who became a legend among the 6th Marines

By Jon Guttman

Lt. Joel Boone was awarded the Medal of Honor for extraordinary heroism while helping the wounded on July 19, 1918. (Naval History and Heritage Command). On June 2, 1918, during Germany's spring offensive on the Western Front, the enemy encountered a newly arrived company of Marines — and they, unlike a

French unit pulling back to more destraight toward the enemy. The outern warfare and an act of extraordiof the Corps that has since found its U.S. Navy Hospital Corps. Among Germans was U.S. Navy officer Joel geon for the 6th Marine Regiment. confrontation between the Marines June 1918. A cousin several times pathfinder Daniel Boone. The relating from Mercersburg Academy in Hahnemann Medical College, Philalieutenant (junior grade) in the U.S. ing the U.S. Naval Medical School in a Regular Navy commission in the

Born in St. Clair, Pennsylvafirst foreign assignment with the Ma-Expeditionary Force suppressing



fensible ground, were marching come was a grim introduction to modnary heroism from another segment own way into Marine tradition: the the Marines marching towards the Boone, who was assigned as the sur-Boone was present during the 25-day and Germans at Belleau Wood in removed from the legendary frontier tionship ended there, though. Gradu-June 1913, followed by attending delphia, Boone was commissioned a Naval Reserve in 1914. After attend-Washington, D.C., he graduated with summer of 1915.

nia, on Aug. 29, 1889, Boone got his rine Artillery Regiment of the Marine the Cacos Rebellion in Haiti. It was

there where he was made medical officer for the 13th Marine Company. By April 1917, Boone was serving aboard the battleship USS Wyoming (BB-32) when the United States declared war on Germany and in June of that year he was temporarily promoted to full lieutenant. Boone faced his first challenge on June 9, when the 6th Marines' regimental aid station was demolished by enemy shells and was bombarded again on the 10th, killing 10 Marines and wounding many more. On June 25, he followed a battalion pressing against machine gun positions, establishing advance dressing stations under continuous shell fire. For his performance throughout the intense fighting at Belleau Wood, Boone was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The final turning point of World War I on the Western Front began on July 14 as the German army tried to force its way across the Marne River and on to Paris — only to be stopped there by the French and American army On July 19, Surg. Boone left the shelter of his field station and into an open field southeast of Vierzy, near a cemetery on the road south. Under a heavy barrage of large caliber shells, Boone calmly but swiftly traversed the scant cover to recover wounded Marines, apply tourniquets and dress wounds. Casualties were so heavy that he used up his dressings and supplies, so he commandeered a motorcycle and drove to the rear through a blitz of explosives and gas, then, as his citation states, "returned quickly with a sidecar load." Such were the day's casualties that his medical supplies were again used up, so "A second trip under the same conditions and for the same purpose, was made by Surg. Boone later that day." Somehow he survived and dozens of front-line witnesses testified to the exploits of the naval officer who became a legend among the 6th Marines.

Promoted to lieutenant commander in September, Boone made it through the war to the armistice on Nov. 11, 1918. His life-saving actions on July 25 were recognized by the Navy, which later saw Boone awarded the Medal of Honor. That, along with the DSC, six Silver Stars, Bronze Star with "V," two Purple Hearts, French Officier de la Légion d'Honneur and Croix de Guerre with two bronze stars, added up to his ultimate status as the most decorated medical officer in the U.S. Armed Services. Boone continued his naval career through World War II and Korea, one of the few Americans to have served in four conflicts. He represented the American medical forces on the deck of battleship Missouri when the Japanese surrendered on Sept. 2, 1945. He also served in the White House physician to Presidents Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover and, briefly, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Editor's note: This story's headline has been corrected to reflect that Joel Boone was a medical officer

## NW ENGLAND DIVISION

# BIG DOGS IN TOWN



On Sunday September 7th the Dogs of The Connecticut Pack were honored to host The Honorable Senior Vice Chief Devil Dog, Joe DeAngelo Jr. and the Honorable Aide De Camp, Barbara DeAngelo. I have been a Dog since 2017 and we have never had a visit from anyone from the kennel besides our New England Vice Chief Devil Dogs, Pat McMahon, and Cherie Monnell. They came to present an award to PCDD Doug Fisk for his continued contributions to the Dogs, and to swear in Vice Chief Devil Dog Pat McMahon.







### U.S. MARINE CORPS 250th BIRTHDAY BALL

Presented by

The Brass City Memorial Detachment- Marine Corps League

Saturday, November 1st, 2025

Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) Club 91 Golden Hill Street, Waterbury, CT 06706 \$50.00 per person

\*\*\*\*\*Raffle Prizes, DJ music and dancing\*\*\*\*\*

6 pm to 7 pm: Open Bar with Hors d'oeuvres, followed by a Cash Bar Buffet Style Dinner, USMC Birthday Cake, Coffee and Tea (Dress is formal)

For Payment Info call:

Detachment Commandant Jim Lauber 203-217-0438 Senior Vice Commandant Tony Pina 203-850-8908









A sea of over 200 Veterans, marching in the 13th Hike to Remember. This annual event is held every September to remember 9-11 and bring attention to Veterans Suicide







### Sponsor our Eternal Flame

"In Memory" or "In Honor" of...

\$15 for a Day \$100 for a Week \$400 for a Month



Donate on our secure website at www.IwoJimaMemorial.org

Or mail a Check to: Iwo Jima Memorial Historical Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 31516
Newington, CT 06131

Questions: Contact Elaine at IwoJimaMem.CT@gmail.com



### 50 YEAR A MARINE

This year marks 50 years "Marine." In 1975, there were rines during that era and very It was by accident that I even en in the Marine Corps. I had and WAVES and never gave it our country; until the day I Marines and within six weeks I footprints at Parris Island!

Today, there are about MOS's are open to those who about 6.5% of the Marine Corps challenging, both physically and much easier than the boot different PFT then, and we were range. We were trained to be even issued a make-up kit and



since I earned the title, only about 3,000 women Malimited MOS's to choose from. learned that there were wombasically only heard of WACS a second thought of serving heard that there were women was standing on those yellow

14,000 women serving and all qualify. Women make up population. Boot camp was mentally in 1975, but it was camp of today. We had a very never introduced to the rifle "Lady Leathernecks" and were provided classes on etiquette.

But then we entered the 1980's where things started to rapidly change. Although I loved being a Marine, I only served four years active duty and then got out to start a new season of my life as a wife, and eventually a mom. Women were discharged from active duty if they were pregnant and I witnessed some of my friends end their service because of it. That started to shift in the late 1970's so by 1980, women were allowed to stay in when pregnant. There still are a lot of complications in today's force with custody of children when the mother deploys, or even goes to extended training, but more women are making careers as Marines than ever before. Within six months of leaving active duty, I joined the Marine Corps Reserves and enjoyed being affiliated again. My MOS was in Administration, so I always had a billet wherever I went. Everything started to change for women Marines around this time. We were now permitted to wear Cammies and boots, something I loved very much! And we finally got to go to the rifle range and fam-fire. I loved that too! Our PFT changed for the third time since I joined to be more aligned with the male PFT. I was fine with that too! And more opportunities were opened for women with the MOS's, and I was proud of that.

During my 24-year career, I served in two active-duty units, and seven reserve units from west coast to east coast, mostly infantry units, long before women were allowed to be in an infantry unit. I deployed with 25 th Marine Regiment for Desert Storm as their Regimental S-1 Chief and



### 50 YEAR A MARINE

was the only woman in the regimental staff. Within a year after returning from that deployment I was promoted to 1 st Sergeant. Because of my gender, the Marine Corps would not allow me to stay with the infantry regiment, so they gave me orders to logistics group where women were allowed to serve in leadership billets. Several years later, I was invited by HQMC to return to 25 th Marine Regiment to be their Headquarters Company First Sergeant and make history for women in leadership billets. I declined that offer and accepted orders to another logistics company in New Jersey. I was the company 1 st Sergeant of two logistics units before being promoted to Sergeant Major and assigned to 6 th Motor Transport Battalion, which some of the old- timers had issues with that.

As I reflect on my 50 years as a Marine, I feel quite blessed. I joined the Marine Corps knowing very little about the Marines, yet eager to be one. I knew little about the history of the Marine Corps outside of what we were taught in boot camp. The 200 th birthday celebration in 1975 was my first experience of sharing such pride with fellow Marines and I began to truly feel part of this family. I graduated boot camp and MOS school and was acclimating to my first duty assignment in 1975 and the buzz was contagious and energizing about the Corps' 200 th birthday celebration. I was bursting with pride to be part of this great organization, and the enthusiasm propelled me to lean into this new identity that was now mine. I earned the title Marine, and now I have a responsibility to uphold all its traditions and customs like all those who came before me.

During my 24-year career, the PFT became the easiest thing the Marine Corps asked of me. I was a trailblazer of sorts for all the changes that were occurring to integrate women into combat MOS's. To meet those MOS minimum standards, women had to adapt and overcome all the myriads of changes with the PFT, weapons training, Crucible, billeting, uniforms, etc. Fifty years later, I stand prouder knowing I am part of an elite organization who has embraced the changes for women Marines and welcomed us as equal. As women, not Lady Leathernecks, we've been challenged to meet physical and mental requirements that have stretched us beyond what most women could ever imagine with a focus on strength and endurance. I love the line, "All women were created equal, then some became Marines."

Happy 250 th Birthday Marines!

Semper Fi

Jamie DePaola, USMC Veteran







Recognized by the Veterans Day National Committee Washington, D.C.

All proceeds benefiting local veteran service organizations















Race Day: Saturday, November 8, 2025

Join us in saluting and thanking our military veterans by being a sponsor

Opening Ceremony: 9:45am · Race starts at 10:00am

PATRIOTS PARK 172 LAKE STREET - COVENTRY, CT 06238

VISIT US AT CTVETERANSDAYRACE.COM

All sponsors and VSO recipients are invited to participate in the Awards Ceremony at 11:00am on race day.





### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PLEASE SELECT YOUR CHOICE GOLD • \$3,000

MILE MARKER • \$500

GENERAL DONATION

O SILVER • \$1,500

CONTRIBUTING • \$100+

#### GOLD - \$3000

- Sponsor logo & website will appear on event website with a link.
- Sponsor will receive a full-page ad in the race brochure.
- Sponsor logo will appear on the back of the event t-shirt.
- Sponsor will have a 3' X 4' vinyl banner prominently displayed at race event.
- Sponsor will receive 5 event entries to include shirts.

#### MILE MARKER - \$500

- Sponsor logo & website will appear on a 12" X 18" sign displayed on the race course.
- Sponsor logo & website will appear on event website with a link.
- Sponsor will be listed in the event brochure.
- Sponsor logo will appear on the back of the event t-shirt.
- Sponsor will receive 1 event entry to include shirt.

#### SILVER - \$1,500

- Sponsor logo & website will appear on event website with a link.
- Sponsor will receive a half-page ad in the race brochure.
- Sponsor logo will appear on the back of the event t-shirt.
- Sponsor will have a 2'X 3' vinyl banner prominently displayed at race event.
- Sponsor will receive 3 event entries to include shirts.

#### **CONTRIBUTING - \$100**

- Sponsor logo & website will appear on event website with a link.
- Sponsor will be listed in event brochure on race day.

**GENERAL DONATION - \$** 

#### To meet production deadlines, please submit your donation by October 17th!

NAME		
TITLE		
ORGANIZATION		
ADDRESS		
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PHONE	EMAIL	

All contributions will help our veteran organizations continue their missions to serve. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. The Connecticut Veterans Day Race, Inc. is a non-profit organization, EIN #88-1807752.

Please return the enclosed form to:

CT Veterans Day Race

P.O. Box 262, Coventry, CT 06238

\*Make checks payable to CT Veterans Day Race



For more information contact:

Jamie DePaola, SgtMaj, USMC (Ret)
860.985.2064 • admin@ctveteransdayrace.com

OR Scan Here to Donate Online



VISIT US ONLINE CTVeteransDayRace.com





## THE "CT VETERANS DAY RACE" HONORS AND SALUTES ALL WHO SERVED

The mission of the CT Veterans Day Race is to support the Connecticut veteran community, especially those most in need. On November 8 th, they will be celebrating their 10 th anniversary of honoring and supporting CT veterans. Veterans Day is a great time for all Americans to salute our military veterans and say, "thank you." MCL member, Peter DePaola, is the Race Director and organizer for the event. He, and his wife Jamie, founded this event in 2016 to not just honor our veterans, but to raise funds and awareness for the VSOs who directly help the underserved veteran community.

Since they began in 2016, the CT Veterans Day Race has donated over \$100,000 to 18 different Veteran Service Organizations in CT. Even with the recent economic challenges we've experienced, one thing that remains true and strong is the human spirit and the willingness to give, to help, and to support others. 100% of the race proceeds are donated to CT Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) who serve the needy and homeless veteran community. The patriotic opening ceremony begins at 9:45 a.m. and features the UConn ROTC Color Guard and Rubyfruit A Cappella choir from UConn singing the National Anthem. The race begins promptly at 10 a.m. and offers both live and virtual options in the 4-mile course, 3-mile walk, or the 3-mile ruck sack. Donations of non-perishable food items will be collected for the "Vittles for Veterans" Food Pantry at Veterans Base Camp, and daily essential items will also be collected for the homeless veteran population for "Backpacks for Life" program. Check out the event's website at www.ctveteransdayrace.com to learn more. Please join the festivities of the day by being a sponsor, or by participating either in the run, walk or ruck or as a patriotic spectator or along the route cheering on the runners. There's something for everyone to celebrate and support veterans on Veterans Day. Please share the good news! In this 250th Anniversary of so many Branches of the Military, please participate in this event

Jamie DePaola

in any way that your circumstances will allow. If not physically then monetarily.



### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER 250 YEARS AS MARINES

My journey as a Marine taught me the immeasurable importance of leadership, not just in the field but in life. I've had a diverse life journey from being with the 12 th Marines, artillery and logistics, to

managing institutional pharmato public office, and a non-stop

As the Marine Corps lain, my message is simply to Values of Honor, Courage and spirit for everyday life. We alhave resilience and hope, and Country as foundational to our the 250 th birthday of our Marine



cies across the Northeast, elected volunteer for veterans causes.
League Department of CT Chapalways live by our Marine Corps Commitment to strengthen our ways need to be spiritually fit, uphold our faith, family and our service. As we prepare to mark Corps, I know that the Marine

Corps instilled in me a sense of responsibility for welfare of others and a belief that leadership always matters, regardless of one's role. It's a lesson that reminds me that we leave our mark not only on the Corps but on the community around us. We earned the title "Marine" and that makes us unique since it's part of our identity in whatever we become when we hang up our beloved uniform. Our 250 years of history attests to that fact.

Three generations of my immediate family have served in the Marine Corp from the Korean War era to the Vietnam War era, the Cold War, and most recently my two sons during the Post 9/11 wars. The seven of us learned the importance of taking responsibility for one's actions, taking care of our own, and servant leadership. Each generation has faced new challenges to become a Marine. Today the physical and mental demands are higher than ever. Today's Marines are part of an organization that demands a difference – and delivers global excellence beyond all others.

S/F

Peter DePaola

Chaplain

MCL Dept of CT







### AMERICAN LEGION POST 143 CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO:

## 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Ball Celebrating the Founding of the United States Army, United States Navy, and United States Marine Corps

Where: Gaelic American Club, 74 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT

06824

When: 6pm, October 25th, 2025

What: Appetizers, dinner, dessert, special armed services

birthday cake, American band, & cash bar available

Cost: \$65 per person

Tickets: Email Post 143 owenfishpost143@gmail.com

Attire: Civilians: Formal, Business, or Coat & Tie;

Military: Evening or Dress Uniforms

Veterans: Either Civilian or Military Attire



#### CONNECTICUT PACK

#### WORTHY PACK LEADERS MESSAGE

As we discussed last Growl we need new dogs. Back in August I sent out an e-mail asking you to bring in names of candidates but I didn't get any, so lets try and get some names for our next GROWL. Also, lets try and boost some attendance as well. The next GROWL is November 2 at Rocky Hill, and it would be nice to make some progress growing our numbers. Call someone up. See if they need a ride and come together.

Last Growl we had a visit from the Honorable Sr. Vice Chief Devil Dog and the Honorable Aide De Campe, and this was a first since I have been a dog. I have seen visits to MA but never to us here in CT. If you don't get to National Conventions and attend The Supreme Growl, this was a great opportunity to meet and get to know your National officers, and for them to meet and get to know you and the things the dogs in Connecticut are capable of. The purpose of their visit was to present an award to PCDD, PDD Doug Fisk in recognition of the work he does for the dogs; and he does do a lot to promote the dogs and the Connecticut Pack. When we travel to Growls in other packs or Quad State, or National Connecticut is one of the loudest and most engaged dogs in attendance. That motivation and enthusiasm comes from PCDD Fisk. The other reason they came was to swear in our very own National Vice Chief Devil Dog, PDD Pat McMahon. Dogs holding this position were not previously sworn in; but starting this year they were sworn the same as the elected officer of the kennel. Since Pat had to leave National early they made the trip to fulfill this requirement.

We did not have time at the last Growl because of the company but PCDD Fisk asked that we bring in some games to the Growl, something the would utterly embarrass the dogs attending. We have had a few in the past with shooting at targets, knocking over plastic cups with marshmallows. I think the best idea would be to make up teams and the teams should be created by Pounds and we could compete for bragging rights

#### **2025 – 2026 PACK OFFICERS**

Worthy Pack Leader: PDD Walt Benson

Worthy SR. Vice Pack Leader: PDD Jim Lauber

Worthy JR. Pack Leader: DD Adele Hodges
Worthy Smart Dog: PCDD, PDD Doug Fisk
Worthy Watch Dog: PDD Rivers McCallop

Worthy Police Dog: PDD Bill Lee

Worthy Dog Trainer: PDD Jack Dougherty Worthy Dog Robber: PDD George Gutmann Jr.

Worthy Barking Dog: PDD Roland Hamel

Thank you for all you do, Semper Woof PDD Walt Benson Worthy Pack Leader

2025—2026 GROWLS, GLAWACKUS POUND & PACK Sept 8 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Peter Monago

Nov 2 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Rocky Hill

Jan 4 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Rocky Hill

Mar 1 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Valley Det.

May 3 Pound 11:00 Pack 13:00 Rocky Hill

June Grand Growl TBD



### **OCTOBER**



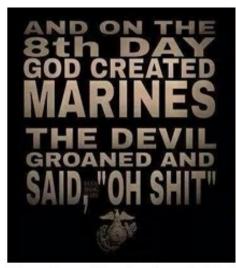
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## 2025 NOVEMBER 2025



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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 fel low Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the world 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 an grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer.

Amen

### SHERATON PENTAGON CITY HOTEL

900 South Orme Street Arlington, Virginia, USA, 22204

Hotel rate is \$131 per night plus tax

- Parking: On-site garage parking is \$10 per day
- Any cancellations after February 10, 2026, will forfeit the one-night deposit
- Free shuttle to/from Reagan Airport (DCA)

Give me the will to do the wor The hotel overlooks Arlington National Cemetery and is of a Marine and to accept my share of right near Henderson Hall and the Fort Myer Exchange.

### NOW RECRUITING

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



#### Attention To Orders

THE NEXT DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT MEETING

August 24th
Rocky Hill Veterans Hospital
287 West St, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Building 50





Continues Here.....

