

Fellow Marine Corps League Members,

I am taking this opportunity to thank you for your trust in re-electing me your Department of Missouri Commandant. By working together with you, your elected Detachment and Department Officers, we can continue to make the Department of Missouri one of the best in the Marine Corps League. Our Department currently consists of twenty Detachments, and we will continue to increase our numbers with your help.

Each Department and Detachment Officer should be familiar with the Bylaws and Procedures of National (www.mcleague.org), Department (www.momcl.org) and your own Detachment. A great source to use as a reference is the Professional Development Program. If you or your Officers haven't attended a presentation yet, please make arrangements to do so. We have members willing to present this class and they do a great job.

Every Detachment Commandant should know that attendance at the quarterly Department conferences and the Department Convention is mandatory. If the Commandant is unable to attend, then a representative needs to be appointed. This is just four times per year, meetings in September, December and March in Jefferson City and Convention in June at the awarded bidding Detachment.

At this time, no Detachment has stepped up to host the June 2015 Department of Missouri Convention. Southwest Missouri Detachment #993, League and Auxiliary, did an outstanding job hosting this year's Convention. Any Detachment that would like to host next year's Convention will benefit from those who have hosted past Conventions. The Department uses these meetings as a source for all of our Detachments to learn what other Detachments are doing to recruit and retain members, fundraising activities, charities, activities for members to do besides attending meetings and work, etc.. You are likely to find that the camaraderie is worth the trip by itself and that the exchanges of ideas are worth taking back to your Detachment and sharing with your members. Please contact me if your Detachment would like to host next year's Convention.

Each Detachment has its own obligations to meet each year. Specifically: you must register with the Missouri Secretary of State (in August, either for one or two years); elect and install Detachment Officers and complete the process by submitting a Report of Officer Installation; audit and submit your PLM prior to the end of the year (using the roster for June 30, sent by National in July); and submit your tax return, which in most cases is an online IRS postcard (990N). I would appreciate an update on when each is completed for my records and to access when asked by a higher office.

Please mark these important dates on your calendars: The Department meetings will be in Jefferson City, MO on the first Saturday of September (6th), December (6th) and March (7st); National Convention will be in Charleston, WVA on August 3-10; Midwest Division Fall Convention will be in South St. Louis, MO on

October 17-19; Department Convention will be in June 2015 at a location to be announced.

At the Department Convention this past weekend, you elected officers to serve you in FY15. Because offices that receive communication from their counterparts at Detachment level were changed, you need to pass this information on to your officers:

Paymaster (Transmittals, Request for Transfer and PLM)

Janice Hartley
26 Jody Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376-2311
314-799-4568
janice.hartley@hotmail.com

Adjutant (ROI, Quarterly Reports)

Jim Hartwick
34 Bluff Ridge #1
Lake Ozarks, MO 65049
573-365-9985
fireballnv@aol.com

Chaplain (Death Notices)

Joe Terry
518 Rodeo Rd
Camdenton, MO 65020-9392
573-346-0680
jrterry59@sbcglobal.net

Judge Advocate (Bylaw change and legal League advice)

Bob Reed
2 Woodpath Lane
St. Peters, MO 63376
636-447-0915
rcreed46@att.net

All other Department officers were re-elected except 3-year Auditor, which is now Dick Brouillette.

Awards were presented at the banquet for the following:

Marine of the Year: Richard Bollwerk, Cpl Mason O Yarbrough Det. 1081
Americanism Award: Darren Reuter, Samuel F. Gearhart Det. 656
Associate of the Year: Terrial Mayberry, Lincoln County Marines Det. 1405
Newsletter: Warsaw Leathernecks Det. 1254

Congratulations to these very deserving recipients!

At the March meeting, it was mentioned that the Department needs to have

fundraisers in order to ensure that we can continue to help the Commandant with expenses to attend Conventions and Conferences; ensure that we have the funds for charities that we support Marines in need; and for administrative expenses. To address that need, we had a challenge coin made with Department of Missouri on one side and Missouri Pack on the other. Thanks to all of you that purchased a coin (or more). We will be able to donate \$300.00 to both the Department Charity fund and the Missouri Pack Charity fund. If you have an idea for a fundraiser, please do not hesitate to present it.

To help ensure efficient communication, all of your Department Officers' contact information is posted on the Department of Missouri website. To ensure that your specific Detachment communication is also available and current, instruct your Detachment Web Sergeant to provide your Detachment updates to your Detachment, Department, and National websites, and to notify the Department Web Sergeant. Finally, each detachment should provide the Department Paymaster, Adjutant, Chaplain and I an email, phone number and mailing address of their counterpart in order to contact when an immediate response is required.

Thank you again for your vote of confidence, and I look forward to working with you to make this a successful year for the Department of Missouri.

Semper Fi,

*Floyd Miller
Commandant
Department of Missouri*



Saepius Exertus, Semper Fidelis, Frater Infinitas,

"Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever,"