

Marines as we approach the 240<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Corps I want to wish all a “Happy Birthday”. Hope you all have a Ball near you to attend. I will be attending the Ball in Springfield with Detachment 993 and Weapons Company.

Growing a Detachment is a process that requires some planning. If anybody knows just one thing you can do to grow please tell me. I found it was a lot of steps. First off it's getting the members attending the meetings. FOOD the number one thing we can do have something to eat before the meeting. A pot of chili, hot dogs, chips work great. Next make the meeting an event if you want to argue about what kind of bar-b-q grill to buy appoint a committee or work it out at a staff meeting don't bore 90% of the people with a 20 minute argument during a meeting. A new member or a visiting Marine is a big deal. Make it a big deal when you swear in that new member have him and the Marine that recruited him up front take a recess everyone shake hands with both and welcome him aboard. Don't bitch because “we can't get enough help” who wants to go to a meeting where there is constant whining about not enough people working. If you need a committee do not ask for volunteers rather ask the person on the spot “Joe will you chair the cooking committee” Bob and Bill can you help Joe?

We have some very successful Detachments here in Missouri. I would like to get some input from all of you. How the meetings and get more participation is the question. Please email me at [cmdtmo@gmail.com](mailto:cmdtmo@gmail.com). I will be attending the Division Conference on the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month and plan to get some good ideas on recruiting the younger Marines. I will pass the information on to you in my November letter.

Bill Webb, Commandant

Department of Missouri