Issue 3

# MARYLAND MUSTER

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### From the Commandant

During my tenure as your commandant I have experienced many eventful activities with my colleagues in the department and national programs. Thank you for a memorable experience, and a special gratitude to my department officers and staff for their support, hard work and dedication of duty to their office. With their efforts and responsible attitude to the task at hand, the past two years have been a meaningful and successful experience for this commandant.

As I continue my quest in the Marine Corps League, my mission is to act as an instrument of positive support, for my league and my community. I will utilize all of the talents that God has given me and will participate in all aspects of any future task or assignment in the league with energy, purpose and gratitude. I will utilize my talents in strategy and administration to ensure that any MCL programs are productive and positive and our detachments as a unit are responsive and



growing. Through this focus I will give more than I take and will provide a positive role model for my brother and sister Marines

I wish the best for your next leaders of the department and the future of our Marine Corps League, in accomplishing their aim of purpose. God bless you, our Corps, and our country, the United States of America.

Semper Fidelis, *Stuart P. Blair* 

### Sr. Vice Commandant - Craig Reeling

I am happy to report that our Department Convention is on track and will be held on 14-16 May 2015 in Ocean City. I'm looking forward to seeing all the Leaguer's. Please make sure to bring all your SOLD and unsold Convention Raffle Tickets. Saturday is our main Business Day where all of the MCL is conducted. It's ok, to just come on Saturday.

Unfortunately only a few of our Detachments and Auxiliary Units made the required donation to the convention this year. See the Department Administrative Procedures, Chapter Two, Section 210 (a)(3). It states "The cost of the food and beverages for the Hospitality will be offset by the Convention Registration fees as well as a cash donation from each Detachment". It's not too late mail us a check, or bring it to the convention.

We are continuing our mission to make sure every Detachment in Maryland is Incorporated with the State and that they maintain that Incorporation on an annual basis by filing a FORM 1. Each Detachment is also required to file an annual tax return with the IRS. Most of our Detachments file the Form 990N e-Postcard. It done on the internet. It's quick and simple at <u>http://epostcard.form990.org/</u>. It you fail to file for three years, the IRS will revoke your tax exempt status. The Department now has a tracking system in place to make sure every Detachment is in compliance with the State of Maryland and the IRS. Currently I am the collector of what I am calling the "Detachment Vital Info Spreadsheet". Please direct all questions to me. Ask your local Detachment Officers where your Detachment stands.

I am a candidate to be your Department Commandant. I hope to have your vote at Convention. I can't wait to get started on the upcoming year.

### Jr. Vice Commandant - Evelyn Remines

I am coming to the end of my short tenure as the Department Junior Vice Commandant. I have tried my best to encourage members in the Department to get out in their communities in order to be seen and recruit potential members. As you may have noticed over my tenure as JVC, membership has consistently dropped. This is due to a multitude of reasons, but proves the need for more aggressive recruitment. Try to get your members out to help at events around your area. Make sure that they are wearing the MCL cover and a detachment shirt, if you have them. Always carry around brochures or business cards in case the opportunity arises. New members will not just come to you, as there are many Marines that don't even know the League exists.

I am often asked how I can do so much for the League, work full time and have a life at home. The answer is simple: I have a Brotherhood of Marines to help me. I always try to remember what I learned in the Marine Corps; Honor, Courage and Commitment. I made a commitment to the Marine Corps League when I took my oath of membership. I honor my oath by never knowingly wronging or injuring my fellow members. This applies to emotional and supportive injuries, not just physical. I try to respect my fellow Marines, even if I don't agree with them. I hope that all of you can think of your Oath when conflicts arise. Remember that we will always be a brotherhood, because we will always be Marines.

Stay the course and bring in new members so we have a League well into the future.

I'd like to thank everyone who supported me while I've been JVC and ask for everyone's support as I move into the Senior Vice position.

### Judge Advocate- Charlie Warns

There has been very little involvement for the quarter with the detachments.

I have assisted one detachment with a question posed by that detachment.

A conclusion has bee reached regarding a hearing board that was conducted by the Department Leadership.

### Eagle Scout Chairman - Charlie Warns

7 March - 16 May, 2015

During this quarter there were 17 Eagle Scout Awards presented.

Total for the year is 89 awards. The detachment with the most awards this year is Shangri-La with 26.

The Department Commandant awarded 27 for the year.

It would be great if we could get all of the detachments to make at least one award a year. There are 9 detachments out of 18 the do not do Eagle Scout presentations. The Commandant of those detachment should make an effort to get involved in the program.

### **MODD** Pack News

Woof! Woof!

If there are any Devil Dogs planning on moving up to PDD in Scottsdale, AZ please make sure you have met all of the requirements and that your Pound Dog Robber has gotten the proper paperwork into Pack Dog Robber Paul Taylor. Congrats to all the Pups who moved up to DD on Friday!

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog!



### Eastern District Vice - Donald Benson, Sr.

This past Quarterly; I have attended Three Eagle Scout Courts of Honor.

I continue to attend Harford County Detachment Social events.

I continue to volunteer at Perry Point Veteran Hospital on a weekly basis.

Participated in Bel Air First Fridays.

Participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Mike Heede Walk/Run

Participated in the Bel Air First Friday

#### **South Eastern District Report**

This last quarter I visited SSgt W. F. Cohee Detachment 115 in Salisbury. On April 8th the Detachment Held Its Officer instillation, Jr. Vice. Commandant Evie Remines was the Installing Officer.

I visited Sgt. Jason Mileo Detachment 1147 in Centerville on April 15<sup>th</sup> The Detachment held its Officer instillation, Sr. Vice. Commandant Craig Reeling, Jr. Vice. Commandant Evie Remines and myself were the Installing the Officers.

I visited South Maryland Leathernecks Detachment 119 LA Plata on May 6<sup>th</sup> The Detachment held its Officer instillation, Sr. Vice. Commandant Craig Reeling, Jr. Vice. Commandant Evie Remines and myself were the Installing the Officers.

#### **Detachments in the South Eastern District**

Choptank	Det. 439	Cambridge MD.
SSgt W. F. Cohee	Det. 115	Salisbury
Patuxent River	Det. 1305	Lexington Park
Southern MD Leathernecks	Det. 119	La Plata
Sgt. Jason D. Mileo	Det. 1147	Centreville

I have asked each Commandant of each Detachment to send me a copies the Quarterly Report and New Letter.

### **Mid East Division Highlights**

The Mideast Division Bulletin should have been forwarded to all Detachments. Some of the main points of interest are:

- Membership in the Division is down by 71 Paid and 8 PLMs since December 2014
- There is a list of awards that the National Jr. Vice Commandant will be giving out at the National convention in August
- The Mideast Division Conference is June 26-28 in Fredericksburg, VA
- The National Convention is August 9-14 in Scottsdale, AZ
- Modern Day Marine Expo is September 22-24 in Quantico, VA



### Pictures from around the Department



Department Sr. Vice Commandant Craig Reeling administers the Oath of Office at the Anne Arundel Detachment



Anne Arundel County's Marine of the Year, Joe Wright



Sgt Jason Mileo's newest Detachment Officers with the Marine of the Year, Leo Stepp.



Outgoing Commandant Howard Koontz passes the colors to incoming Commandant Milton Hazard



Officers of the Harford County Detachment with Marine of the Year Bud Reick and Pound 333 Dog of the Year Art Romain

### Pictures from around the Department



The 5th Annual Department Leadership College was held on 18 Apr 15 at the Glen Burnie VFW Post 160 (home of the Anne Arundel Detachment). The class included member from Delaware and West Virginia. Congratulations to all of the graduates.



Patuxent River Detachment 1305 swears in Officers at their March 3rd meeting.



The Patuxent River Detachment working their Leatherneck 5K on May 3rd.

### Pictures from around the Department



LCpl Dean Detachment recruiting at the Celtic Festival in Mt. Airy on May 9th.

### Thank you for a great year!!



## Semper fi!

Maryland Muster Newsletter for the DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

<mark>Once a Maríne, always a</mark> Maríne

The members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorable discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marine and former Marines and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.



www.facebook.com/MarineCorpsLeagueMaryland



Marine Corps League license plates are always available! As long as you are a member in good standing you qualify for these plates. If interested, please contact Craig Reeling at <u>craig.reeling@marylandmarines.org</u>

If you would like something posted in the next issue of the Maryland Muster, email either Evie at mclchick@hotmail.com or Don at msgte8don@yahoo.com