



**CHESAPEAKE
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 853**



116 Reservation Rd STE 1, Chesapeake, VA 23322-5253
757-348-1711
ChesapeakeMCL@gmail.com
ChesapeakeMCL.com

SITREP
DETACHMENT 853 NEWSLETTER
MAY 2026

Commandant:
Edward Pearia
epearia@cox.net
757-348-1711

Senior Vice Commandant:
David Perdue
dkperdue@verizon.net
757-395-7980

Junior Vice Commandant:
William Fogle
billfogle49@gmail.com
757-679-0241

Judge Advocate:
David Weber
davidweberltcolusmc@msn.com
757-620-7023



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MISSION:

“To promote the interest and perpetuate the traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and FMF Chaplains who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.”



AFTER ACTION REPORT – APRIL 2026

During The Month Of April, Detachment 853:

-  Held Monthly Detachment Meeting
-  Held Quarterly Trustee Meeting
-  Sworn In New Member
-  Sponsored A Concession Stand For Special Events At The Hampton Coliseum
-  Attended Chesapeake Jubilee's Executive Committee Meeting
-  Met With Chesapeake USMC Recruiting Sub-Station's Commander
-  Attended The Mayor's Commission On Veterans' Affairs Executive Meeting
-  Sponsored and Attended VFW Post 2894's Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk
-  Retired Damaged American Flags



DETACHMENT COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

Once again, it's that time of year; the Chesapeake Jubilee is approaching in a couple of weeks. Last month, the Detachment enlisted the help of 31 Marines from the Marine Corps Training Company at NAS Northwest Annex to support our efforts at this year's Chesapeake Jubilee. The Marines will be under the supervision of an NCO. Additionally, the Chesapeake Marine Corps Recruiting Station may set up a tent and table to discuss career opportunities with the Jubilee's attendees.

I encourage Detachment members to stop by for a short while during the Jubilee to show their support. Frank Ashbrook will once again take point on this operation; as in years past, Frank has consistently been the first to arrive at our command post and the last to leave. This year, Frank will stay on site in a camper to ensure the command post operates smoothly each day and remains secure at night.

Throughout the weekend, the Detachment will be responsible for cooking several cases of hamburgers and hot dogs to feed our members, volunteers, and over thirty plus hungry Marines with voracious appetites.

JUBILEE HOURS:

FRIDAY, MAY 15TH	5 PM -- 10 PM
SATURDAY, MAY 16TH	10 AM – 10 PM
SUNDAY, MAY 17TH	NOON – 6 PM



Chesapeake Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

On Memorial Day, our Detachment will once more take part in the Chesapeake Memorial Day Ceremony. Representatives from the Detachment will lay a wreath to pay tribute to Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Chaplains who lost their lives serving our country. Approximately ten active-duty Marines from NAS Northwest Annex, representing the Marine Corps, are expected to attend this event.

Best Wishes to our members who have birthdays this month. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Semper Fi!
Ed Pearia

SR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

Our commandant, Ed Pearia has cards made up for the members to hand out to any Marines that might be interested in joining our detachment. Get with him, and he will provide them to you.



Front



Back

Also, the Virginia Beach Marine Corps League Detachment is trying to get a Military Order of the Devil Dogs unit started locally. If anyone is interested in joining the Military Order of the Devil Dogs get in touch with me and I'll get you in touch with the Virginia Beach detachment member. For more information, their website is: <https://militaryorderofthedevidogs.org/>

Semper Fi!

David Perdue

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

MAY SAFETY TIP: OUTDOOR SAFTY



As we happily greet spring and the return of warmer weather, we tend to spend more time outdoors. In our rush to enjoy our newfound freedom from winter boredom, we are at risk for injury if we are not careful. Be aware of weather forecasts. Spring brings the chance of rapidly changing weather, especially in Virginia.

There are ways to decrease our risks and increase our enjoyment of the great outdoors:

-  Dress in layers to easily adapt to quick temperature changes.
-  Initially limit your outdoor activity during peak sun hours of 1000-1600. Acclimate gradually.
-  Wear sun protection of at least SPF 30. Try to work or play in the shade.
-  Stay well hydrated (beer doesn't count).
-  Remember you are in the insects' domain. Mosquitoes and ticks can spoil your fun. Use insect repellent of at least 20% DEET.
-  Wear footwear suitable to your activity. No flipflops while playing softball.
-  Avoid wearing loose fitting clothing when cooking outdoors, especially loose or hanging sleeves.
-  Use extra care in grassy areas or those with loose soil.

Following these safety steps will decrease the risk of sunburn, falls, insect-borne illness, and other injuries. We wish you a healthy and active summer.

Live long and prosper!

Semper Paratus!

David Weber

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

We're almost ready to battle against Satan and his forces: We have on our belt of truth- - Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6)-- the breastplate of righteousness-- We receive the gift of the "righteousness of God because of what Jesus Christ did." (Romans 5:1).

To finish off our Godly armor, Paul instructs us to "take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God." (Eph 6:16-17) all three of these pieces of our spiritual armor give us the strength to carry on the good fight. The shield covers us completely, curving over our bodies, and is tough enough to withstand any lie, doubt, or temptation Satan throws our way. On our shield, we have emblazoned Fear not for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Is 41:10) And under that, a great big cross that reminds us that Jesus "is with us, even to the end of an age." (Matt 28:20). Because we trust Him, He'll hold the shield up for us. And where would we be without our helmet of salvation? That strung helmet keeps Satan away. It guards our thoughts, keeping us secure in the knowledge that Christ has sealed us as His because "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with riches of God's grace." (Eph 1:7) Reminding you who you belong to, that helmet is far stronger than any lie Satan tells. Finally, we take up the sword of the Spirit, the word of God. We ignite the power of God when we recite or read a scripture. It might be just to say, "Get thee behind me, Satan! (Matt 16:23) when our thoughts run to a place where we feel alone, frightened, or attacked. We might want to reread the Beatitudes, knowing that we are blessed when we are: poor in spirit" (Matt 5:3), and remember that we just can't get through these hard moments alone. For whatever the reason we go the the word

of God, we know that He is in every sentence, using Scripture to guide our paths, And now that we have put the on the whole armor of God, we acknowledge that He and His Son never meant us to do it alone.

Lord, I come before you clad in Your armor. I thank You for Your protection, for all that You do to keep me safe. And I thank You that You have given me steps to fight against the temptations that Satan sets before me every day. I am in awe that the God of the universe, who created everything, cares about me. You are always enough; in fact more than I would even think to ask. Help me to give as You give. Help me to let others know how You have blessed my life. I want to be that light that points others toward Your amazing gifts. Keep me always true to You. I pray. Amen

Prayer List:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our Detachment's Marines: William Sweeney Sr, Mike Jeannotte, Wayne Smith, Willmont "Griff" Griffin, Pete Harris, Joe Hoadley, Gary Insley, Jen Edinger and all members' and their families that are dealing with health issues or the life challenges in their lives.

Semper Fi!

Rev. Dana Lortie,
MSgt (Ret).

QUARTERMASTER'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

At the Detachment, we try to keep a number of the official Marine Corps League red covers and Eagle globe and anchor emblems available for our members. We also have a selection of the red embroidered, polo shirts in various sizes.

Prices:



The Marine Corps League cover is \$35



Eagle globe, and anchor emblem is \$7.



The polo shirts are currently \$30.

We do not mark-up prices. In fact, the Detachment absorbs the shipping costs from National.

The Semper Fi store sells embroidered polo shirts for \$45, and they are not specific to our Detachment.

I currently buy the EGA cover emblems at the Camp Elmore Marine Corps Exchange for about \$3 less than what the Semper Fi store is selling them.

We have a bunch of MCL ribbons if you need them.

If there is anything that you need ordered from the Semper Fi store at National, you can either go through me or you can order items for yourself.

Note- The only required item for a uniform is the red Marine Corps League cover.

The website for the Semper Fi store is: <https://the-semper-fi-store.myshopify.com/>

Semper Fi!

David Perdue

	ANNOUNCEMENTS	
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HEADS UP!
DETACHMENT MEETING
THURSDAY, 28 MAY, 1900 HOURS

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 15-17 May ~ Chesapeake Jubilee Ice Sale
- 25 May ~ Memorial Day & Chesapeake Memorial Day Ceremony
- 28 May ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 29-30 May ~ 2026 MCL Department of Virginia Spring Convention
- 25 June ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- July ~ Trustee Meeting; Date & Time To Be Decided (TBD)
- 04 July ~ Fourth Of July
- 23 July ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 27 August ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 19 September ~ Chesapeake Mayor's Veterans Breakfast, 0800 Hours
- 24 September ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- October ~ Trustee Meeting; Date & Time To Be Decided (TBD)
- 22 October ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 10 November ~ Marine Corps Birthday
- 11 November ~ Veterans Day
- 21 November Detachment Members' Meeting, Saturday, 0900 Hours (Prep Thanksgiving Baskets)
- 7 December ~ Detachment Dinner / Installation of 2027 Officers
- 19 December Detachment Member Meeting, Saturday, 0900 Hours (Prep Christmas Baskets)





The 2026 Chesapeake Jubilee kicks off Friday, May 15th at Chesapeake City Park. **We are actively seeking sponsors, vendors, crafters and musical acts to fill the 2026 lineup.** With over 40 years under our belt, the Chesapeake Jubilee is more than a carnival, it's a family tradition experienced by more than 35,000 patrons annually.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of an amazing community event while gaining exposure for your brand, band, or business!

Don't miss our Annual Fireworks Extravaganza produced by the world famous Zambelli Fireworks!

Bring the kids out for what is sure to be a memorable occasion.

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THURSDAY, MAY 14TH 6:00PM – 10:00PM	AMUSEMENTS of AMERICA ONLY RIDES & GAMES OPEN
THURSDAY, MAY 14TH 4:30PM – 7:00PM	Shrimp Feast Kiwanis Club of Chesapeake
FRIDAY, MAY 15TH 5:00PM – 10:00PM	JUBILEE CHESAPEAKE VA AMUSEMENTS of AMERICA MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT
SATURDAY, MAY 16TH 10:00AM – 10:00PM	JUBILEE CHESAPEAKE VA AMUSEMENTS of AMERICA MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT
SATURDAY, MAY 16TH 9:00PM	FIREWORKS
SUNDAY, MAY 17TH NOON – 6:00PM	JUBILEE CHESAPEAKE VA AMUSEMENTS of AMERICA MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

MEMORIAL DAY



"All Gave Some.... Some Gave All"

MEMORIAL DAY Is A DAY OF REFLECTION..... A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE for the Marines, Corpsmen, and U.S. Armed Forces' men and women who made the ultimate commitment for their country by sacrificing their lives, limbs, or mental health so other people may one day enjoy the same blessings of liberty and posterity that we all take for granted.....

MAY THEY NEVER BE FORGOTTEN!

JAMES B. BROWN • JERRY FIELDS • ROBERT B. FINE • WILLIAM B. FINE • JAMES
 FRANKLIN • RICHARD M. GALLERY • JESSE E. GARCIA • THOMAS G. IDLE • JAMES
 HAMILTON • MICHAEL L. HANSON • PAUL A. HARRISON • JOHN E. HAWTHORN
 A. MONEYCUTT • WILLIAM J. HULMES • EDWARD E. CLUTHRIE • NATHANIEL H. JAC
 ROBERT W. MARTIN • AT
 JOSEPH M. LOUCHRA
 EDWARD C. MILLER
 EDWARD L. MILN
 JAMES P. NICHOLS
 JEROME PRIOR
 MARK J. ROMAN • RO
 LARRY C. SCHWEBKE • EDWARD S. SMITH • GEORGE A. SMITH • J
 GREGORY J. STAPLES • RALPH C. STEWART • PIERRE L. SULLIVAN • MA
 MICHAEL ATEAGUE • HOWARD M. THOMPSON • DENNIS S. TOTE
 GEORGE E. THOM • DEAN WASHLEY



Mayor's Commission on Veteran's Affairs Memorial Day Ceremony



The City of Chesapeake will hold its Annual Memorial Day Ceremony the last Monday in May at 11:00 AM in front of Chesapeake City Hall on Cedar Road to honor Veterans and to show public appreciation for those who serve and have served our country. Chesapeake Mayor's Commissioner firmly believes that recognizing and honoring our Veterans for their contributions to the American way of life is pivotal to maintaining the freedoms and lifestyle that each of us enjoys on a daily basis here in Chesapeake. Chesapeake's Annual Memorial Day Observance is presented by The Mayor's Commission on Veteran's Affairs.





THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: MAY

2 May, 1946

Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks, under the command of Warrant Officer Charles L. Buckner, aided in suppressing the three-day prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. WO Buckner, a veteran of the Bougainville and Guam campaigns, ably led his force of Marines without suffering a single casualty.

5 May, 1983

In Beirut, Lebanon, a UH-1N helicopter carrying the commander of the American peace-keeping force, Colonel James Mead, was hit by machine gun fire. The six Marines aboard escaped injury. Colonel Mead and his crew had taken off in the helicopter to investigate artillery and rocket duels between rival Syrian-backed Druze Moslem militiamen and Christian Phalangists that endangered French members of the multinational force.

8 May, 1945

Today the war in Europe ended.

8 May, 1995

In the wake of the most devastating storm to hit the New Orleans area in more than 200 years, a group of Marines and sailors from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the quick response synonymous with the Navy/Marine Corps team. Within 24 hours of being called, Marines assisted in the evacuation of 2,500 civilians, and Navy corpsmen treated scores of flood victims.

10 May, 1945

The 22d Marines, 6th Marine Division, executed a pre-dawn attack south across the Asa River Estuary and seized a bridgehead from which to continue the attack toward Naha, the capital of Okinawa.

15 May, 1862

Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for service in the USS *Galena* during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.

16 May, 1945

The 22d and 29th Marines continued the attack against Half Moon Hill, a day characterized by the 6th Marine Division as the "bitterest" of the Okinawa campaign. By the 18th, the famed "Shuri line" had been breached.

17 May, 1950

Armed Forces Day is a holiday that honors the United States military and is celebrated annually on the third Saturday in May. The day was established by President Harry S. Truman in 1950 to recognize the unification of the military branches under the Department of Defense.

18 May, 2023

On Aug. 31, 1949, Defense Secretary Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the armed forces under one agency -- the Department of Defense. In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb. 27, 1950, Truman stated: "Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, toward the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea, and air defense."

22 May, 1912

First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham, the first Marine officer to be assigned to "duty in connection with aviation" by Major General Commandant William P. Biddle, reported for aviation training at the Naval Aviation Camp at Annapolis, Maryland, and Marine aviation had its official beginning.

23 May, 1988

The V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut during rollout ceremonies at Bell Helicopter Textron's Arlington, Texas, facility. More than 1,000 representatives from the military, industry, and media, gathered to hear various speakers, including Gen Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps, praise the versatile rotor craft designed to meet the needs of 21st Century battlefields.

26 MAY, 1969

Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3d Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at the end of June with 610 enemy killed in action at a cost of 34 Marines killed.

29, May, 1991

Elements of a joint task force that included the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade departed the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Bangladesh after nearly two weeks of disaster relief operations following a devastating cyclone. The joint task force delivered tons of relief supplies using helicopters, C- 130s, and landing craft in Operation Sea Angel.



FORMER CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

General Colin Powell's Thoughts On Leadership

THOUGHT #8

"Organization doesn't really accomplish anything. Plans don't accomplish anything, either. Theories of management don't much matter. Endeavors succeed or fail because of the people involved. Only by attracting the best people will you accomplish great deeds."

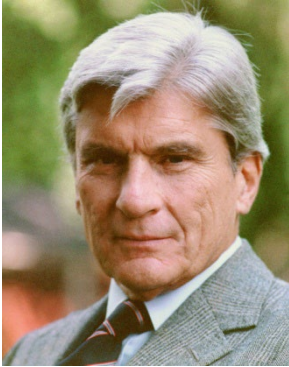
"In a brain-based economy, your best assets are people. We've heard this expression so often that it's become trite. But how many leaders really "walk the talk" with this stuff? Too often, people are assumed to be empty chess pieces to be moved around by grand viziers, which may explain why so many top managers immerse their calendar time in deal making, restructuring and the latest management fad. How many immerse themselves in the goal of creating an environment where the best, the brightest, the most creative are attracted, retained and, most importantly, unleashed?"

To Be Continued...



DID YOU KNOW.....

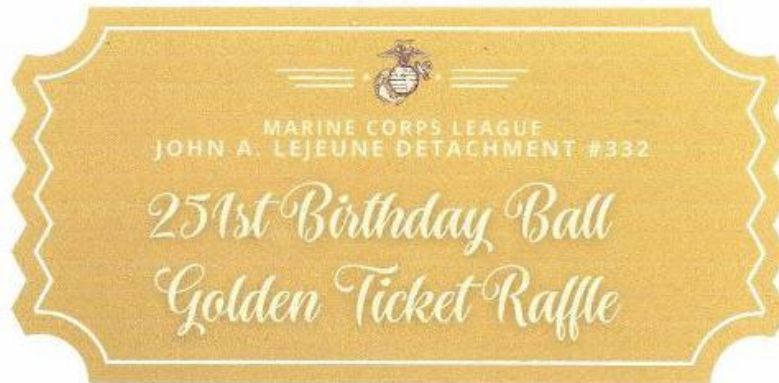
John W. Warner, U.S. Senator from Virginia and Secretary of the Navy was a Marine?



Warner enlisted in the United States Navy during World War II in January 1945, shortly before his 18th birthday. He served until the following year, leaving as a petty officer third class.

Warner joined the U.S. Marine Corps in October 1950, after the outbreak of the Korean War, and served in Korea as a ground aircraft maintenance officer with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. His service number was 050488. He continued in the Marine Corps Reserves after the war, eventually reaching the rank of captain.

The Marine Corps League John A. Lejeune Detachment 332 is having an amazing raffle for this year's Birthday Ball.



Enter for a chance to win an exclusive prize pack for our 251st Birthday Ball in November 2026! The winner will receive two tickets to this landmark celebration and a one night hotel stay for an unforgettable night.

Winner will be announced June 1, 2026!

Tickets-\$20 each
Purchase tickets online!

www.mcljohnalejeunedet332.org



For more information check out our website or contact the Detachment at:

mcldet332@gmail.com

757-276-3323

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**NEWS**

**VETERANS IN CRISIS OR CONCERNED ABOUT ONE?
24/7, CONFIDENTIAL CRISIS SUPPORT
FOR VETERANS AND THEIR LOVED ONES**

BE THE ONE

To **ASK** veterans in your life how they are doing

To **LISTEN** when a veteran needs to talk

To **REACH OUT** when a veteran is struggling



TEXT: 838255

Chat Online: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat/>

FROM THE OBVERSATON POST



“Every Day Is MEMORIAL DAY Somewhere”

- Ed Seagers, American Legion Post 105



- Anyone living in Chesapeake and needs a ride to our Detachment's meetings or activities, please contact us at **ChesapeakeMCL@gmail.com** or call or text one of our officers.
- I-RIDE, a service from the Peninsula Agency on Aging, offers rides to and from local VA clinics at no charge to veterans age 60 and over. The clinics include those in Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, and the newest one, the North Battlefield VA Clinic at 70 Knells Ridge Blvd, Chesapeake. You can book your ride at (757) 461-9481. **Make the appointment today!**



***ATTENTION ON DECK!
DETACHMENT 853 NEWEST MEMBER:
JAMES "JAKE" PETERS
OORAH!***

DETACHMENT BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY:



Mike Jeannotte ~ 01 May
Pete Harris ~ 03 May
Jim Beale ~ 22 May
George Freeman ~ 27 May



OUR MARINE CORPS

THE MARINE TIMES

April 27, 2026,

By Cristina Stassis

All Marines required to follow grooming standards within 12 months or face separation



The U.S. Marine Corps announced that established uniform and grooming standards must be met within 12 months, regardless of medical conditions, in accordance with the Department of Defense's previous guidance.

The statement says that temporary uniform or grooming standards exceptions for medical conditions are limited to 12 months and gives guidance on the separation process for Marines unable to comply with the order, according to a Marine Administrative message signed Friday.

The release mentions this update includes those who experience Pseudofolliculitis Barbae, commonly known as razor bumps and mainly affects those with tightly curled hair, like Black men.

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth has consistently sought a clean-shaven force, calling for "no beardos", pushing for a review of military fitness and grooming standards and tightening the guidelines for those who request exemptions.

Marines who require exemptions for more than 12 months will be evaluated for administrative separation, which the Corps say they are revising the timeline for.

"This change provides our leaders the necessary time to ensure updated policies, training, and educational materials are fully implemented, and that all affected personnel are properly counseled before any final administrative action is taken," the message reads.

In the statement, commanders are tasked with following specific steps for the administrative separation process:

Firstly, commanders are supposed to conduct initial counseling after six months of non-compliance with the established grooming or uniform standard, which will be formally documented to notify the service member of the possibility of administrative separation.

After 12 months, commanders will then evaluate the Marine for continued service and weigh beginning the separation process if the service member's medical condition has not improved, is not classified as a disability and "affects good order and discipline."

Before taking more steps in the separation process, commanders need to obtain a medical recommendation for separation that is endorsed by a Medical Evaluation Board Convening Authority.



THE MARINES



"I still need Marines who can shoot and salute. But I need Marines who can fix jet engines and man sophisticated radar sets, as well."

- General Robert E. Cushman, Jr., USMC, 17 May 1974.

Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aeterni

"Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever"

