



**CHESAPEAKE
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 853**



116 Reservation Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23322-5253
948-210-5528
ChesapeakeMCL@gmail.com
ChesapeakeMCL.com

SITREP
DETACHMENT 853 NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2025

Commandant:
Joseph Hoadley
jwhoadley@aol.com
757-335-2304

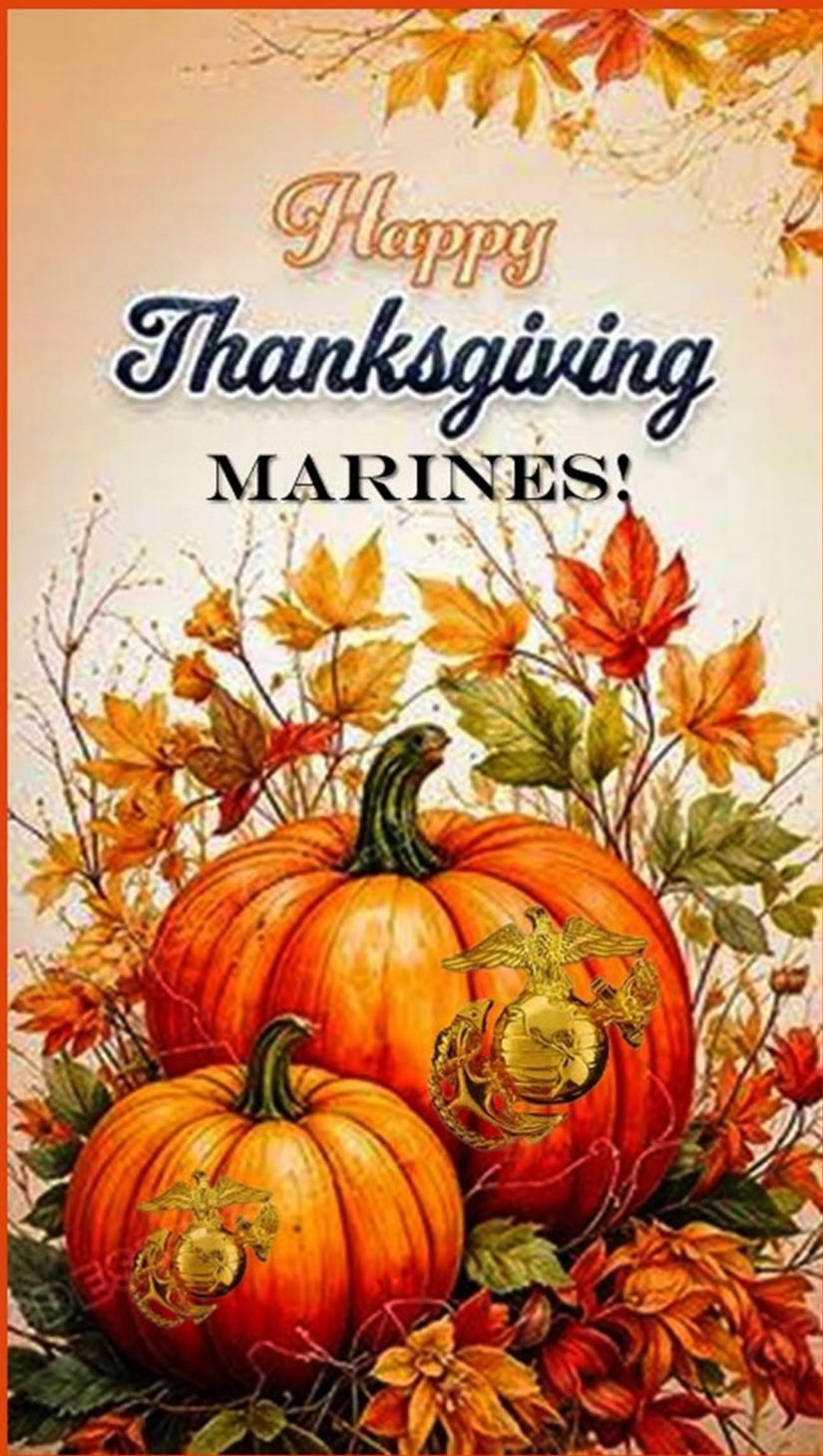
Senior Vice Commandant:
Edward Pearia
epearia@cox.net
757-348-1711

Junior Vice Commandant:
David Perdue
djperdue@verizon.net
757-395-7980

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



Happy
Thanksgiving
MARINES!



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 – OCTOBER 2025

During the month of October, Detachment 853:

-  Held Monthly Detachment Meeting
-  Held Quarterly Trustee Meeting
-  Held Nominations For 2026 Detachment Officers
-  Attended Department Meeting in Richmond
-  Met with Chesapeake's Parks and Recreation Director and Staff.
-  Sponsored a Golf Hole At The Annual LCPL Cody Childers Memorial Golf Tournament
-  Represented The Detachment At The LCPL Cody Childers Memorial Golf Tournament
-  Sponsored A Concession Stand for Special Events at The Hampton Coliseum
-  Received a Monetary Donation From A Life Member
-  Replaced Flag Spotlight Lightbulbs.
-  VFW Post 2894 Donated 30 Bags of Mulch To The Detachment
-  Started Dismantling Detachment's Deck And Horseshoe Pit
-  Retired Damaged American Flags



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| | DETACHMENT COMMUNIQUÉ | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES!

It is time to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our beloved Marine Corps. For those that are attending a Marine Ball, be safe, but have a wonderful evening. The cold season and flu season is upon us if you need to get a flu shot now is the time. If you have not been around the detachment building you will see a lot of changes being made on the outside of the building. Parks and Rec's is getting ready for the 250th battle of Great Bridge.

Marine history for the month of November:



11/7/2004 - 2nd Battle of Fallujah also known as Operation Phantom Fury, begins against Iraqi insurgents controlling the city.



11/10/1775 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.



11/20/1943 - 2nd Marine Division lands on Tarawa.



11/25/2001 - First Marines land in Afghanistan in a mission codenamed Swift Freedom aimed at cutting off incoming supplies and escape routes for the Taliban and Al-Qaeda (OEF)

Birthdays for the month of November:

Burkley Perrow ~ 11/6

Ed Pearia ~ 11/18

On November the 8th the detachment will be making the food baskets for those Marines in need of support. This will also be the detachment meeting and election of officer. We would like to see you at the meeting. One last thing, for those of you that hunt good luck this hunting season and please be safe!

Semper Fi!

Joe Hoadley

SR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

Veterans form a unique bond through their military service, united by experiences that set them apart from those who have not served in the military. This connection is rooted in the challenges, responsibilities, and camaraderie developed during their time in uniform.

Last month, from October 20th to 24th, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) organized “Buddy Check Week” to promote outreach among veterans. This initiative encouraged veterans to contact at least ten fellow veterans, family members, caregivers, or brother-in-arms to check in with them. These interactions need not have been formal or intensive; they may have taken the form of a brief text message, phone call, or meeting for coffee. The primary objective was to foster meaningful connections, ensuring that veterans feel supported and are aware of available resources should they require assistance and most importantly, they know **They Are Not Forgotten!**

WHY wait once a year to reach out to our friends and fellow veterans that may be in need? The bottom line is that maintaining regular contact with fellow veterans and friends should be regarded as a continuous commitment rather than a yearly event. This is especially significant for those who have shared experiences such as boot camp, the challenges of combat, or just time served together. Consider reaching out to your friends and fellow veterans to positively impact their day. Collectively, we can be committed to addressing and combating the issue of veteran suicides that are continuing to plague our country.

HERE'S THE SCOOP



A common frustration among email users is when expected or important messages are mistakenly sent to the spam folder rather than being delivered to the inbox. This issue can disrupt communication and cause you to miss out on timely updates or responses. Thankfully, most major email providers offer straightforward solutions to prevent legitimate emails from being misclassified as spam, such as marking messages as "Not Spam," adding trusted senders to your contacts, or creating custom filters to direct important emails to your inbox. By taking advantage of these features, you can help ensure that crucial messages reach you without unnecessary delays and reduce the likelihood of missing vital information. Adding our Detachment's email address, ChesapeakeMCL@gmail.com, into your contact's list will help assure your messages will go into your inbox instead of your spam folder..... **Now You Know the Rest Of The Story!**

SICK CALL:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our Detachment's Marines: Mike Jeannotte, Gary Insley, Wayne Smith, Willmont “Griff” Griffin and his wife Tina, and all members' and their families that are dealing with health issues.

Semper Fi!
Ed Pearia

JR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

We now have all sizes in stock for the MCL cover. The Detachment also has plenty of embroidered CMCL regular and tech performance short sleeve polo shirts for \$30.00. Sizes are from Medium to XXL. Call, text, email or see me to special order or pick up. The price of MCL covers with anchor & globe is \$44.00.

Semper Fi!

David Perdue

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S MESSAGE








MARINES,

NOVEMBER SAFTY TIP:



November is Drowsy Driving Awareness Month. Did you know that sleeping only 3-4 hours before driving is like having a few drinks? While most of us would avoid driving after drinking, only about half of us would do so after having too little sleep. Remember those weekend passes, traveling along the highway and drifting out of your lane or being mesmerized by the constant rhythm of the center white lines? Wow, we were lucky!

Each year, ~100,000 crashes are caused by drowsy driving, resulting in over 71,000 injuries, over \$12.5 million in damages, and sometimes death. Don't be part of these statistics. There are several things you can do to avoid this:

-  Ensure you get 7-9 hours of sleep the night before your trip.
-  Ensure your current medications can not cause drowsiness.
-  Avoid driving during your body's natural sleepiness periods, usually 1-6 AM and 1-4 PM.
-  If possible, use a buddy system on long trips, alternating driving duties.
-  Never drink alcohol before or while driving; it makes sleepiness worse.
-  Take breaks about every 2 hours to stretch, walk around, and refresh. It will also decrease the possibility of a deep vein thrombosis.
-  Know the symptoms ... yawning, "heavy" eyelids, difficulty focusing, or even "nodding off". If this occurs, pull over to a safe spot, like a rest area, and take a 20-minute power nap.

We want you to remain safe, especially with the Holiday travel months approaching. Remember ... ***drowsy driving is impaired driving!***

SAFETY MESSAGE

BEWARE A NEW SCAM TARGETING VETERANS!

There is a new scam circulating involving notifications of bogus overpayment of benefits. Targeting veterans and beneficiaries receiving benefit payments, the scammers send fraudulent texts, emails, or phone calls informing veterans that they owe money to the VA due to overpayment. They usually pressure the veteran to pay the debts immediately, and to send payment directly to them instead of the VA.



While the messages may seem authentic, even to the scammer using a VA letterhead or logo, they are not. The VA notifies any veteran about a possible debt by letter. The VA will not call or send a text message. Any debt notice from the VA will direct the veteran to VA's Debt Management Center (DMC). You can verify any debt notification by logging on to your VA.gov account or by calling the VA DMC at 1-800-827-0648.

Avoid being scammed!

- Verify debt notice via VA.gov.
- Use ONLY official VA channels.
- Never share login information; VA will never ask for login or password.
- Be cautious of any emails or texts directing you to a site that is NOT part of www.va.gov.
- Never pay upfront fees! VA provides free assistance in debt settlement.
- Avoid clicking on unknown or suspicious emails or texts.
- Use trusted payment methods. VA does NOT use wire transfers, bitcoin, prepaid debit cards, money transfers, or gift cards.
- Be wary of social media requests; those unknown 'friends' may be scammers.
- Never, ever, share information on social security numbers, bank accounts, or credit cards.

If you have been a target of a scam, or of suspicious activity, contact the VA immediately at 1-800-827-1000.

Semper Fi!

David Weber

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

The church in Galatia was under attack by conflicting teachings on what was necessary to have a right relationship with God. Some taught that we are counted as righteous by our faith in God's gift of salvation in Jesus while others taught that righteousness only came by our works-in this case, through being circumcised. Such disagreement and division were an obstacle to unity.

Paul urges, "We who live by the spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised." He notes: What is important is faith expressing itself in love." And he encourages the Galatians and us to "let the Holy Spirit guide your lives." When we humbly surrender to God, focusing all of our attention on Him, we begin to live out our faith which finds expression in our love for God and love for others, regardless of their opinions or standing before God.

Read Galatians 5:16-24

If you and I belong to Christ Jesus, Paul says we have "nailed the passions and desires of our sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another." Will you intentionally choose today to nail the passions and desires of your sinful nature to the cross of Jesus and permit the Holy Spirit to produce in you the fruit of the Spirit -love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control? If so, you will experience the joy of unity.

Lord, today I choose to nail the passions and desires of my sinful nature to the cross of Jesus so that they may be crucified there and I choose to live by the Spirit, following His leading in every part of my life. May my faith be expressed by my love so that I might experience unity with my brothers and sisters in Christ. Amen.

Semper Fi!

Rev. Dana Lortie,
MSgt (Ret).

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

CHESAPEAKE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DETACHMENT 853 MINUTES OF 23 OCTOBER 2025

Opening Ceremony:

- Meeting was called to order by the Commandant at 1900 hours.
- Colors posted
- Pledge of Allegiance was made.
- Bible was opened and opening prayer was read.

Roll Call: 6 members present including all elected officers:

1. Joe Hoadley, Commandant
2. Ed Pearia, Senior Vice Commandant / Adjutant
3. David Perdue, Junior Vice Commandant
4. David Weber, Judge Advocate
5. Keli Martin, Associate Member
6. Woodrow "Woody" Keating, Member

Order Of Business:

- No Application for membership was submitted.
- Minutes of September meeting were distributed and read. Motion was made they be approved. Motion was seconded and approved.
- Commandant reported on September's correspondence
- Paymasters Report was distributed and read. Motion was made that they be approved. Motion was seconded and approved
- Report was given on any member or member's family sick or in distress by the Sr. Vice Commandant.
- Report from Officers:
 1. Commandant announced that nominations for next year's Detachments officers will be held at this meeting. November meeting will be held on Saturday the 8th. and the December's meeting will be on Saturday the 6th. He Announced that member Mike Jeannotte was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident.
 2. Senior Vice Commandant announced that he talked to 1stSgt Lawrence regarding this year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball donation.
 3. Junior Vice Commandant announced that we now have all sizes of MCL covers in stock.
 4. Judge Advocate announced the quarterly Trustee Meeting was held this month and the Chesapeake Women's Club is collecting food for our Thanksgiving & Christmas food baskets.

Unfinished business:

- Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets was discussed

New business:

- Motion was made to make an additional donation to the 250th Marine Corps Birthday Ball Fund. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Motion was made to donate to the Memorial Day Foundation for holiday wreaths. The motion was seconded and approved.

- Setting Dates for November and December Meetings
- Nominations for next year's, 2026, Detachments Officers were made:
 - a. Commandant: Joe Hoadley
 - b. Senior Vice Commandant: Ed Pearia
 - c. Junior Vice Commandant: David Perdue
 - d. Judge Advocate: David Weber

Closing Ceremony:

- Closing was held with retiring of the colors,
- Closing prayer,
- Playing the Marine Corps Hymn.

Semper Fi!

Ed Pearia

ANNOUNCEMENTS



HEADS UP!

**NOVEMBER DETACHMENT MEETING
SATURDAY, 08 NOVEMBER, 0930 HOURS**

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 08 November ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Saturday, 0930 Hours
[Prep for Thanksgiving Food Baskets]
- 10 November ~ MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY
- 11 November ~ Chesapeake Veterans Day Ceremony – 1100 Hours; City Hall
- 15 November ~ Marine Corps 250th Birthday Ball – Saturday, 1800 – 0000 Hours; VA Beach
- 06 December ~ Detachment Members' Meeting – Saturday, 0930 Hours
[Prep Christmas Food Baskets]
- 6 December ~ Chesapeake Christmas Parade ~ 1500 Hours [Prep] – 1800 Hours (Parade)
- 6 December ~ Detachment Dinner / Installation of officers – Time TBD



ATTENTION ON DECK!

Missing a pair of eyeglasses?

Someone left pair of black eyeglasses at the Detachment's CP



- 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!**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES!



Graphic was created by Cpl Matthew Benfield, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific



Commemorating & Honoring

Virginia Beach marks the conclusion of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and honors America's prisoners of war and those missing in action (POW-MIA).

Nov. 7–11, 2025



Graphics by Jeanie Jacobs Huffman, Mission: POW-MIA.

FREE Events Include:

- **The Moving Wall**, a half-size traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Nov. 7-12, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center
- **Tidewater Veterans Day Parade**, 9 a.m., Nov. 11, starting at 16th Street and Atlantic Avenue
- **Tidewater Veterans Day Ceremony**, 11 a.m., Nov. 11, at the Tidewater Veterans Memorial, across from the Convention Center

For details, visit VirginiaBeach.gov/VeteransWeek



MAYOR'S COMMITTEE
FOR VETERANS



FORMER CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF General Colin Powell's Thoughts On Leadership

THOUGHT #2

“The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help them or concluded that you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership.”

“If this were a litmus test, the majority of CEOs would fail. One, they build so many barriers to upward communication that the very idea of someone lower in the hierarchy looking up to the leader for help is ludicrous. Two, the corporate culture they foster often defines asking for help as weakness or failure, so people cover up their gaps, and the organization suffers accordingly. Real leaders make themselves accessible and available. They show concern for the efforts and challenges faced by underlings, even as they demand high standards. Accordingly, they are more likely to create an environment where problem analysis replaces blame.”

To Be Continued...



DID YOU KNOW.....

The Actor, Director And Academy Award Winner, George C. Scott, Was A Marine?



After high school, Scott enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, serving from 1945 to 1949. He was assigned to 8th and I Barracks in Washington, D.C., and his primary duty was serving as honor guard at military funerals at Arlington National Cemetery. He later said that during his duty at Arlington, "[I] pick[ed] up a solid drinking habit that stayed with me from then on." Following military service, Scott enrolled at the [University of Missouri](#) on the [G.I. Bill](#) where he majored in journalism and then became interested in drama. George C. Scott was discharged from the Marine Corps as a Sergeant.

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



How to report a Veteran's death to VA

July 18, 2024

Monica Cabrera, Program Analyst,
VBA Office of Financial Management

The passing of a Veteran is a solemn time that deserves to be recognized and reported with the utmost respect. Veterans have served their country and worked hard for their well-deserved benefits. However, after a Veteran pass away, family members should report the death of the Veteran to VA as soon as possible to stop current benefits payments. If the death is not reported promptly, survivors or executors of the Veteran's estate may have to repay any overpayments received. Payments the deceased Veteran received may include compensation, pension, education or Veteran Readiness & Employment benefits. VA encourages loved ones of deceased Veterans to follow the guidance below on reporting Veteran deaths to avoid falling victim to benefit scams. **How to report the death of a Veteran:**

Calling is the fastest way to report a Veteran's death so VA will stop benefit payments, but there are other options available for reporting.

Options for reporting:

- By Phone: Call VA 800-827-1000 (TTY: 711) and select 5. Agents are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET.
- In Person: Go to a VA regional office. Find the nearest VA regional office.

- By Mail: Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Intake Center, PO Box 4444, Janesville, WI 53547-4444. Include your relationship to the Veteran and any supporting documents that can help us verify the Veteran's identity. Examples of supporting documents are:
 - Death certificate or other public record of the Veteran's death
 - Discharge document (like a DD214)
- If you report in person at a VA regional office or by mail, provide copies of:
- Death certificate or other public record of the Veteran's death.
- Discharge document (like a DD214).

Provide as much information about the Veteran as you can when you first report the notice of death to VA. This information will help VA verify the Veteran's identity. This information includes:

- Full name.
- Social Security Number or VA claim number.
- Date of birth.
- Date of death.
- Branch of service.

Best practices to avoid survivor benefit scams

- Save important files, such as the Veteran's military service/treatment records, discharge papers and copies of their VA claims.
- Go to the VA website. For guidance on creating an account and obtaining a VA security Personal Identification Number (PIN) to securely access benefit information. A VA Security PIN is an additional way to secure direct deposit accounts from theft and protect Personally Identifiable Information (PII).
- Never give out PII via text and be cautious of suspicious hyperlinks or unfamiliar hyperlinks.
- If a survivor is missing a VA benefits payment, identifies a discrepancy in payments, or find suspicious activity with a direct deposit account, contact VA immediately at 800-827-1000.
- Review all documents thoroughly. Survivors should never sign a blank form for someone else to complete later. They should always review the completed form before signing and retain a copy of the completed form for their records.
- For protection against identity theft scams, notify the major credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) to update the individual's credit report with a deceased notice and notify the Veteran's financial institutions so all accounts can be closed or transferred appropriately.
- According to AARP, scammers also use names published in obituaries to pretend to be long lost relatives of the deceased. When it's time to write your loved one's obituary, consider leaving out the birthdate, middle name, home address, birthplace and mother's maiden name.
- For other scams predators use, visit www.VA.GOV/VSAFE.

VA is committed to delivering world-class care and benefits to Veterans and their dependents by providing survivors with ongoing support and assistance. Check to see if you qualify for survivor benefits, such as health care coverage, Survivors' and Dependents' Education Assistance Program, housing assistance, or even help with burial costs.

For more guidance on how to report the death of a Veteran, submitting necessary documentation and finding additional resources available, visit [VA Benefits For Spouses, Dependents, Survivors, And Family Caregivers | Veterans Affairs](#).

To report a missing VA benefits payment, identify a discrepancy in payments, or find suspicious activity with a direct deposit account, contact VA immediately at 800-827-1000. You may also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission if funeral homes charge to set up funeral honors or schedule a burial with VA's National Cemetery Administration by visiting reportfraud.ftc.gov. For other scams predators use, visit va.gov/vsafe.

**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 OBSERVATION POST



“Hope is not a strategy. Luck is not a factor. Fear is not an option.”

— James Cameron

Netflix drops trailer for upcoming ‘Marines’ documentary

By [Claire Barrett](#)

Oct 17, 2025, 02:25 PM



(Amblin Entertainment)

Netflix Thursday released its first trailer for “Marines,” a four-episode documentary series on the U.S. Marine Corps.

All four episodes are set to air on the service’s 250th birthday on Nov. 10.

The series, from the team behind World War II dramas “Band of Brothers” and “Saving Private Ryan,” follows the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit “as they conduct high-stakes combat exercises in the Pacific,” according to the Netflix synopsis.

“I’m a grunt,” comes the voice of one Marine in the trailer, “Someone that’s going to do exactly what they’re told.”

“But we think too,” he says.

The camera cuts to him.

“We have feelings, all right?”

He points to the camera. “All right?”

One of just seven expeditionary units, the 31st, based in Okinawa, Japan, is the only permanently forward-deployed Marine expeditionary unit. The series aims to provide an “inside look into the rigorous trainings and emotional moments of young Marines as they forge bonds while grappling with the complexities of life at sea.”

It was directed by Chelsea Yarnell, who worked on “Cheer” and “America’s Sweethearts: Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders” and produced by Amblin Documentaries and Lucky 8 TV. Executive producers are Darryl Frank, Justin Falvey, the presidents of Amblin Entertainment Television and Documentaries, as well as Sebastian Junger, Kimberly Woodard, Greg Henry, Isaac Holub and George Kralovansky, with Katie Goldstein and Arielle Kilker serving as co-executive producers. Frank and Falvey, in a statement, called the documentary “a gripping, important look behind the curtain of one our nation’s most vital institutions.”

“We’d like to thank the United States Marine Corps for welcoming us and trusting us to tell the honest, complex stories of the brave young people willing to risk their lives for their country. ... It’s been a pleasure to work alongside the teams at Netflix and Lucky 8, and we can’t wait to share the series with audiences soon.”

MARINE CORPS SCOUT DOGS



Epilogue

The "post-Vietnam era" began with the end of the Vietnam War in May 1975 and continued throughout the decades until now. In compassing the Gulf war, the war with Iraq and Afghanistan, and the war on Terrorism. The Marine Corps Scout Dogs program continued to evolve and expand. In the 1980's the Marine Corps recruited the Belgian Malinois into their ranks and approximately 2011 the Corps enlisted the Labrador Retriever into the Marine Corps working dog program. The Belgian Malinois was selected for its intelligence and durability, and the Labrador Retriever was chosen for being a natural born hunter with an extraordinary sense of smell.

As in previous wars, the German Shepard's and the Belgian Malinois's primary responsibilities were scouting and reconnaissance, patrol support, and performing building, cave and vehicle searches. Due to the Labradors' ability to smell 17 different odors associated with homemade explosives, the Labs were used to counter-IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices).

Ever since WWII in the Pacific Theater, The Marine Corps working dog program has proven to be invaluable to the Corps. Over the decades, as conflicts arose—from the jungles of Vietnam to the arid regions of Central and Western Asia — the program adapted to meet evolving threats and missions. Today, Marine handlers and their canine partners continue to serve side by side, forging bonds of trust and skill that are unmatched in the field. Whether detecting explosives, conducting patrols, or aiding in search and rescue operations, these dogs play an essential role in safeguarding Marines and enhancing operational effectiveness. Their legacy is one of unwavering loyalty and service, embodying the very spirit of the Corps.





THE MARINES



“The relation between officers and enlisted men should in no sense be that of superior and inferior nor that of master and servant, but rather that of teacher and scholar. In fact, it should partake of the nature of the relation between father and son, to the extent that officers, especially commanding officers, are responsible for the physical, mental, and moral welfare, as well as the discipline and military training of the young men under their command.” – Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune

Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aeterni

"Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever"

