



**CHESAPEAKE
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 853**



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SITREP
DETACHMENT 853 NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 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
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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 – NOVEMBER 2025

During The Month Of November, Detachment 853:



Held Monthly Detachment Meeting



Sold Detachment's Pool Table



Received A Monetary Donation From A Life Member



Received A Food Donation From The Chesapeake Women's Club



Held Elections For 2026 Detachment Officers



Distributed Annual Thanksgiving Food Baskets To Applicable Junior Enlisted Marine & Navy Families



Sponsored A Concession Stand for Special Events at The Hampton Coliseum



Dismantled Detachment's Deck, Picnic Table And Horseshoe Pit.



Retired Damaged American Flags



DETACHMENT COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

Semper Fi Marines!








Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and got your fill of all that Turkey and pumpkin pie. The baskets were given to the reserve units for Thanksgiving and now on to 6th of December when we do the Christmas baskets. I attended the Marine Corps Ball with Tracs and Mac24 and had a great night being with these young outstanding Marines. Made me think of the days when I was in and can't believe I was that young.

The Birthdays For Our Detachment Members This Month:

Bill Sweeney, if you see Bill wish him a Happy Birthday.

Marine History For The Month Of December:

-  12/7/1941 ~ 112 US Marines killed or missing and 64 wounded during Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.
-  12/15/1948 ~ The Secretary of the Navy signs agreement launching Marine Security Guard programs at US Embassies worldwide.
-  12/20/1989 ~ Operation Just Cause launches in Panama.
-  12/23/2004 ~ The 2nd Battle of Fallujah ends.
-  12/29/1929 ~ Capt. Alton N. Parker becomes the first Marine Corps pilot to fly over the Antarctic continent as part of the Byrd Expedition.

On the 6th of December we have our detachment meeting, installation of officers, a luncheon after that and then decorate the float for the Christmas parade. We hope to see you all there. Lastly, from Chesapeake Detachment 853, and my family wish you ALL a VERY MERRY CRISTMAS, AND THE HAPPIEST OF NEW YEARS!

Semper Fi !

Joe Hoadley

SR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,







Just over two years ago, the city's Parks and Recreation Department expanded Battle Park South to incorporate the facility now designated as our Detachment's Command Post, together with all land extending to the drawbridge. Since then, the department has consistently worked to enhance the area by extending walkways, installing lighting, planting trees along the waterway approaching the bridge, and upgrading the building's exterior. In addition, the city has constructed a new parking lot and plans to repave the existing one. As part of these improvements, the deck, picnic table, and horseshoe pits have been removed. Following the completion of these outdoor enhancements, the next phase will focus on a full interior renovation of our building; however, a timeline for this stage has not yet been announced. The P&R's ultimate goal is to make our building a boat welcome center, museum and with the Chesapeake Marine Corps League occupying part of the facility.

Now you know the rest of the story!

DETACHMENT ELECTION:

On Saturday, 8 November, the Detachment had the annual election of officers. As there was only one candidate for each office, the vote was by acclamation, announced by the Adjutant.

The results of the election and the officers elected were:

-  Commandant: Joseph Hoadley
-  Senior Vice Commandant Edward Pearia
-  Junior Vice Commandant David Perdue
-  Judge Advocate David Weber

We congratulate each of the newly elected officers and look forward to another successful year for our Detachment.

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, Peter Harris, and all members' and their families that are dealing with health issues.



From my family to yours, wishing you a very Healthy, Safe and Happy Holiday Season. I hope to see you at our last meeting of the year this coming Saturday, the 6th.

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,

DECEMBER SAFTY TIP:



Well, we have safely finished another year! We have experienced good times, fellowship, storms, family get-togethers, and Virginia elections. During all of this, we have maintained our overall health and mental wellbeing. But we cannot let down our efforts.

PHYSICAL HEALTH:

- Be aware of stress and fatigue.
- Get proper rest and relaxation.
- Avoid over exertion, like shoveling snow without a break.
- Get your flu and COVID vaccinations.

MENTAL HEALTH:

- Again, avoid stressful situations.
- Be aware of how Holiday financial and family worries can increase stress.

Be careful this month and finish your year healthy and happy.

See you in 2026!

Semper Fi !

David Weber

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

When we look at the closeness of the end of this year and looking at the New Year, we can sometimes be overwhelmed by the different things that try to derail our confidence. God reminds us that He has a plan, a purpose, a future, and a hope for each of us. He has uniquely designed each of us to do the good works He planned for us to do. We are His precious ones, the darlings of His heart, who are created to love and relate to Him, know that you are intentionally and purposefully created for your precious life by a designer who loves you to death and back to life.

Jeremiah 29:11-14:

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. I will be found by you, says the Lord. I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land"

Lord, we praise you, for your never-ending love for us. We are unworthy and yet you determined that we are priceless. How desperately we need to know this truth! We are your priceless treasured children. As we look ahead, please remind our hearts that you have a plan and a purpose for our lives. Help us to see our purpose and to act in accordance with that purpose. Open our eyes to see the opportunities to serve and to love. In Christ, Jesus we pray.

Semper Fi !

Rev. Dana Lortie,
MSgt (Ret).

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

CHESAPEAKE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 853
MINUTES OF 08 NOVEMBER 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. Dana Lortie, Chaplain
6. Clay Edinger, 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 election for next year's Detachments officers will be held at this meeting, the 8th. and the December's meeting will be on Saturday the 6th. A luncheon will follow after the meeting.
 2. Senior Vice Commandant announced that he talked to 1stSgt Lawrence and GySgt Edwards regarding this month's Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Virginia Beach.
 3. Junior Vice Commandant announced that we now have all sizes of MCL covers in stock.,
 4. Judge Advocate announced the Chesapeake Women's Club has donated food for our Thanksgiving & Christmas food baskets.

Unfinished business:

- Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets were discussed
- Discussed the possibility of handing out school backpacks
- Election: Since there was only one candidate for each office, the vote was by acclamation, announced by the Adjutant.

New business:

- Motion was made to sell Detachment's pool table, discussion was held, motion was seconded, the motion was passed unanimously

Closing Ceremony:

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

Semper Fi !

Ed Pearia

ANNOUNCEMENTS



HEADS UP!
2026 DETACHMENT MEETING
THURSDAY, 22 JANUARY, 1900 HOURS

DATE TO REMEMBER:

22 January ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, January ,1900 Hours



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!**



MARINES!





FORMER CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

General Colin Powell's Thoughts On Leadership

THOUGHT #3

"Don't be buffaloed by experts and elites. Experts often possess more data than judgment. Elites can become so inbred that they produce hemophiliacs who bleed to death as soon as they are nicked by the real world."

"Small companies and start-ups don't have the time for analytically detached experts. They don't have the money to subsidize lofty elites, either. The president answers the phone and drives the truck when necessary; everyone on the payroll visibly produces and contributes to bottom-line results or they're history. But as companies get bigger, they often forget who "brought them to the dance" things like all-hands involvement, egalitarianism, informality, market intimacy, daring, risk, speed, agility. Policies that emanate from ivory towers often have an adverse impact on the people out in the field who are fighting the wars or bringing in the revenues. Real leaders are vigilant, and combative, in the face of these trends."

To Be Continued...



DID YOU KNOW.....

Santa Claus (also known simply as Santa, or as Saint Nicholas) was a Marine?



Gunny Clause's MOS was an Aviation NCO (MOS 75XX). His invaluable, extensive Marine training enabled him to expertly land his Sled, reindeer and squad of elves onto hot LZs and into challenging and dangerous locations around the globe. Wherever he arrived on Christmas Day, he brought joy and happiness.

OORAH!

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



“If there is any one secret of success, it lies in the ability to get the other person’s point of view and see things from that person’s angle as well as from your own.”

— Henry Ford



Marine^{CORPS}**Times**

By J.D. Simkins

November 25, 2025

**Marines hit retention goal ‘earlier than ever before,’
top Marine says**



The U.S. Marine Corps hit its fiscal 2026 retention goals just weeks after the target window opened, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Eric Smith announced in a recent video.

While the Corps' retention goals were quickly achieved in FY2024 and FY2025, this year's numbers were met "earlier than ever before," Smith said in the video, which was produced in October but released later due to the U.S. government shutdown.

Smith noted that, despite the success, a handful of military occupational specialties remain open for interested Marines. Alongside Smith in the video, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Carlos A. Ruiz encouraged "qualified Marines who still have the desire to serve ... to pursue lateral move opportunities into our critical need MOSs."

A MARADMIN released earlier this month rattled off a number of MOSs as options for such moves, with the message noting that "lat move" requests will be "processed on a case-by-case basis and ... subject to school seat availability." That list included MOSs such as Counterintelligence/Human Intelligence Specialist (0211), Reconnaissance Marine (0321), Critical Skills Operator (MARSOC) (0372), Influence Operations Specialist (1751) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (2336), among others.

"There are also outstanding opportunities in the reserve component through the Direct Affiliation Program and the active reserve," Ruiz added in the video.

Smith and Ruiz capped the message by urging leaders to prepare Marines for re-enlistment with an eye toward fiscal 2027.

Additional retention efforts targeting other Marine Corps components were unveiled last week, meanwhile, when officials announced that Selected Marine Corps Reserve personnel in ranks E-4 to E-6 were being made eligible for one-time pay bumps for remaining in specific job specialties.

As part of the Selected Marine Corps Reserve Retention and Affiliation Bonus Program, corporals, sergeants and staff sergeants with select MOSs are eligible for up to \$20,000 lump-sum bonuses upon extending service in the SMCR for 36 months, according to a Nov. 19 memo.

Marines in those ranks are also eligible to serve terms of 12 and 24 months, with corresponding bonus payments of \$5,000 and \$10,000, respectively.

In addition to retention goals, data released by the Marine Corps in September showed that the service had exceeded its most recent active-duty and reserve enlisted recruiting goal by a single person, bringing in 30,536 Marines across those components.

Marine Corps officials at the time noted the close-call total was a credit to the service being more selective of who it recruits.



THE MARINES



Colonel' Lewis "Chesty" Puller's response to a young Marine who was asking permission to be married.... **"Son, when the Marine Corps wants you to have a wife, you will be issued one!"**

--- Lt. Gen. Lewis "Chesty" Puller

Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aeterni

"Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever"

