



MCL 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."

MCL

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
CHESAPEAKE DETACHMENT 853

Meetings

4th Thursday of the month – 7 pm
Detachment 853 Headquarters
116 Reservation Rd,
Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

Email: ChesapeakeMCL@gmail.com
Phone: 757-348-1711

Visit us on our website



Visit us on Facebook



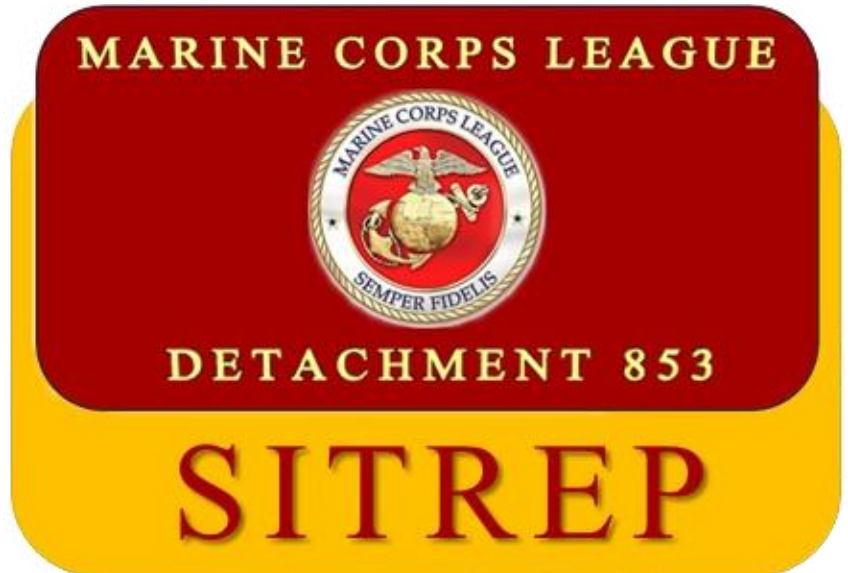
DETACHMENT OFFICERS

Commandant:	Edward Pearia
Sr. Vice Commandant:	David Perdue
Jr. Vice Commandant:	William Fogle
Judge Adjutant:	David Weber
Chaplin:	Dana Lortie
Adjutant:	David Weber
Sargeant of Arms:	Vincent Amos
Quartermaster:	David Perdue

NATIONAL
mcleaguelibrary.org

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
virginiamarines.com

DETACHMENT 853
ChesapeakeMCL.com



IN MEMORIAM:
Sgt Maj Wayne N. Smith
1947 - 2026



Dedicated Marine With 30 Years of Active Duty
MCL Detachment 853 Life Member.



AFTER ACTION REPORT – AUGUST 2026

During The Month of August, Detachment 853:

- Held monthly Detachment meeting
- Sworn in new member
- Detachment life member passed away
- Assisted two junior enlisted Marines families
- Made a monetary donation to the LCPL Cody S. Childers Memorial Fund
- Made a monetary donation to Norfolk Highland Primary School
- Painted Detachment's "Flag Box"
- Attended Sgt Maj Wayne N. Smith viewing / Funeral Services
- Retired damaged /worn American flags



DETACHMENT 853 COMMUNIQUE

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE



MARINES,

On a bright, sunny Tuesday, September 1, family, friends including members of the Chesapeake Detachment, gathered to pay tribute and lay Detachment 853's life member, Sgt. Maj. Wayne N. Smith, to rest.

The Segreant Major's distinguished Marine Corps career expanded three decades and encompassed the Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars. Wayne was a Marine's Marine. As a Marine, he walked the walk and indisputably, talked the talk.

Wayne's love, devotion for his family, friends and the Marine Corps.... his dedication to the Marine Corps League ...his unmistakable senses of humor.... and undeniably, his

unwavering commitment to his community will always be remembered.

Under the Marine Corps League guidelines, our Detachments' Chaplain Dana Lortie and past Department, past Detachment Commandant, Joe Hoadley performed the Funeral Services. The Marine Corps Honor Guard at the cemetery was exceptional.

Detachment Marines attending the viewing / funeral service were Joe Hoadley, Dana Lortie, Clay Edinger, David Perdue, David Weber, Vince Amos, Sam Smith and Ed Pearia

Woody Keating ~ Woody Keating is the Detachment's newest Life Member. OoRah!

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

Stay Safe.

Semper Fi!

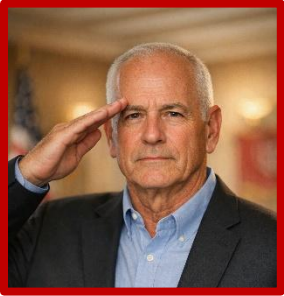
Ed Pearia

epearia@cox.net



SR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,



Can you salute indoors and uncovered?

I know, we all had it pounded into our heads that Marines do not salute indoors (Unless under arms) or while not wearing a cover.

For those unaware of it, the Defense Authorization Act of 2009 allows veterans to render the hand salute during the National Anthem and as the colors pass in parades or ceremonies. This applies in- or outdoors and whether covered or uncovered.

Federal law was updated in 2008 and 2009 to allow veterans and active-duty service members to salute while in civilian attire. The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the salute during the raising, lowering, or passing of the flag, while the 2009 Act, signed in October 2008, expanded this to include the National Anthem.

From the official Marine Corps website: <https://www.marines.mil/News/Article/166482/new-law-allows-salutes-in-civvies-during-anthem/>

Semper Fi!

David Perdue

dkperdue@verizon.net

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S MESSAGE

MARINES,



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is here already, in the height of our annual hurricane season. If we haven't experienced one yet, we still have a chance between now and November. The important thing is to be prepared.

- Review and update your household evacuation plan, including where to meet your family and what is your designated evacuation route. Always keep your vehicle at least half-full of fuel.
- Restock your emergency "go-bag", making sure needed batteries are fresh, spare clothes are clean, flashlights work, and portable radios still function. Don't forget phone chargers.
- Recheck the 3 days' worth of non-perishable food and water you will need. Make sure a first aid kit and any needed medicines are available and easily found in any emergency.
- If you have a generator, make sure it is fully operational, has adequate fuel, and is in a safe open location.



- Scan around your home to make sure there are no loose items that could become dangerous missiles in a hurricane or strong wind event.

Careful and thorough preparation will ensure you and your loved ones are ready for any sudden appearance of Mother Nature's wrath.

Live long and prosper!

Semper Fi!

David Weber

davidweberltcolusmc@ms.com

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

"HOPE"



"Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our suffering, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" - *Romans 5:1-5*

All of us have experienced disappointment. We were hoping for something to happen, and it didn't. We had hoped for a better doctor's report or that the job we were interested in would become ours. We had hoped for a relationship to heal or for our prayers to be answered. We were hoping, and it didn't happen. This can lead to discouragement and frustration.

Scripture reminds us that "hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." - *Romans 5:5* Hope is not about circumstances. Hope is grounded in God's unconditional love that strengthens and sustains us. Disappointment and frustration do not need to rule our lives. The hope we have does not disappoint because it is centered on Jesus Christ.

In all this I pray in God; \s name. **AMEN**

Prayer List:

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

Semper Fi!

Rev. Dana Lortie

dlort522@gmail.com

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 red embroidered, polo shirts in various sizes

Prices:

- The Marine Corps League cover without emblem: \$35
- Eagle, globe, and anchor emblem: \$7.
- Embroidered polo shirts: \$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.

If you have individual shirts that you would like to have embroidered with the Detachment logo, our new embroidery company can accommodate that. Cost is \$8 per shirt.

Note- Probably a month turnaround time on this, as the company is very busy.

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

dkperdue@verizon.net



ANNOUNCEMENTS



HEADS UP!
DETACHMENT MEETING
THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 1900 HOURS



CHESAPEAKE DETACHMENT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 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)

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT MCL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 9-10 October ~ MCL VA Department Fall Meeting; Winchester, VA

NATIONAL MCL DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 25-27 February ~ 2027 National Mid-Winter Conference; Virginia Beach, VA



Vietnam Era 3rd Marine Division T-Shirts

Sizes: XL and 2XL

\$18.00 each



If interested, contact Jake Peters

jakey.peters@proton.me

MILITARY AND VETERANS COMMUNITY WELLNESS DAY

Saturday, September 26 · 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Chesapeake Conference Center (700 Conference Center Drive)



WHAT TO EXPECT

-  Information Sessions
-  Resource Tables
-  Community & Connection

Scan the QR code to register!







FORMER CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

General Colin Powell's Thoughts On Leadership

THOUGHT #12

"Perpetual Optimism Is A Force Multiplier."

"The ripple effect of a leader's enthusiasm and optimism is awesome. So is the impact of cynicism and pessimism. Leaders who whine and blame engender those same behaviors among their colleagues. I am not talking about stoically accepting organizational stupidity and performance incompetence with a "what, me worry?" smile. I am talking about a gung-ho attitude that says "we can change things here, we can achieve awesome goals, we can be the best." Spare me the grim litany of the "realist," give me the unrealistic aspirations of the optimist any day."

To Be Continued...



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY:



6 September 1983 - Two Marines were killed and a further two were wounded when rockets hit their compound in Beirut, Lebanon. Heavy fighting continued for the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit near their positions around the Beirut International Airport, culminating in the militant group Hezbollah bombing the Marine barracks in Beirut the following month.

8 September 1942 - On September 8, 1942, the 1st Raider Battalion and the 1st Parachute Battalion, carried out a successful raid on a Japanese supply base.

15 September 1950 - On September 15, 1950, the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines captured Wolmi-do Island in Inchon Harbor prior to the main landing. That same day, the 1st Marine Division under the command of Major General Oliver P. Smith landed at Inchon in what is widely viewed as one of, if not the greatest, amphibious assaults of the 20th Century, and began the Inchon-Seoul campaign.

16 September 1951 - On September 16, 1951, Corporal Joseph Vittori, 22, of Beverly, Massachusetts, earned the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Battle of the Punchbowl near Songnae-dong, South Korea.

16 September 1815 - On September 16, 1814, a detachment of Marines from the Naval Station at New Orleans under the command of Major Daniel Carmick, together with an Army detachment, destroyed a pirate stronghold at Barataria, on the Island of Grande Terre, near New Orleans. The stronghold was commanded by the famous pirate Jean Lafitte.

20 September 1950 - Marines of the 1st Marine Division crossed the Han River eight miles northwest of Seoul, South Korea. Five days later, the 1st and 5th Marines attacked Seoul and, by the 27th, had captured it.

24 September 1873 - 199 Marines and seamen from the *USS Pensacola* and the *USS Benicia* landed at the Bay of Panama in what is now Colombia, South America, to protect the railroad and American lives and property as local groups fought for control over the government of Panama.

27 September 1944 - US Marines secured and raised the American flag over the island of Peleliu. Despite Marines securing the island, pockets of Japanese soldiers held out and continued to fight against American forces until April of 1947, nearly two years after the war ended.

30 September 1945 - U.S. Marines under the command of Major General Keller E. Rockey began landing in Northern China to assist the Chinese government accept the surrender of Japanese forces and repatriate Japanese soldiers and civilians.





FROM THE OBSERVATION POST



“The secret of getting ahead is getting started”
- Mark Twain



DO YOU KNOW.....

The Hardest Operational and Combat MOSs to Earn and Pass in the Marine Corps?



If you consider selection and attrition difficulty rather than enlistment exclusivity, special operations and elite reconnaissance fields top the list:

The MARSOC / Critical Skills Operator (MOS 0372 / 0370):

Becoming a Marine Raider requires passing the grueling, highly selective Individual Training Course (ITC) after already serving in the fleet. High physical, psychological, and intelligence standards cause extreme wash-out rates.

The Reconnaissance Marine (MOS 0321 / 0317):

Marine Recon features a famously unforgiving selection and training pipeline. Candidates must excel in advanced amphibious operations, open-ocean swimming, survival, and long-range rucking, where even physically strong candidates frequently fail on the first try.



VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

NEWS

Types Of Claims, Decision Reviews, And Appeals That Can Be Checked Online:

- Disability compensation (including claims based on special needs like an automobile or clothing allowance)
- Veterans or Survivors Pension benefits
- Special monthly compensation (such as Aid and Attendance)
- Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)
- Burial allowance to help pay for a Veteran's burial and funeral expenses
- Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) or Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) grant

You can check the status of these types of requests:

- Requests to add or remove dependents
- Requests for approval of school attendance for dependent children



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/>



- 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!**
- The VA Urgent care facility in Chesapeake is **Patient First located at 705 Battlefield Blvd. (757) 547-068**



ATTENTION ON DECK!
DETACHMENT 853 NEWEST MEMBER:
KEEGAN DALEY
OORAH!



DETACHMENT BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER



Eric Dessart ~ 04 September
Bill Butlin ~ 13 September



OUR MARINE CORPS

By Eve Sampson

September 2, 2026

Marine Corps To Add 6,500 Billets In Force Expansion



More Marines are coming to infantry battalions, drone units and air defenses under a sweeping plan to grow the force by more than 6,500 billets over the next five years.

The additional Marines will be spread across 64 initiatives, including reinforcing the Pacific fleet, creating a drone school and establishing new occupational specialties, the service announced Tuesday in a statement. The Corps is aiming for a 4% end-strength increase by 2031 and an additional 1% increase by 2032. The announcement shows the Corps is looking to

simultaneously bolster infantry units and digital tactics. “By aligning trained Marines with modernized capabilities, the Marine Corps ensures prior and future investments in robotics, precision fires, counter-UAS, artificial intelligence, and autonomous systems produce warfighting advantages,” the statement said.

The new slots come after the Corps has spent years experimenting, modernizing and honing its ability to fight in island-studded regions like the Pacific. Last week, the service released Ground Combat Element 2040, a strategy outlining how its ground forces will change over the next 15 years. The service also plans to increase crew-served weapons personnel, add more 60mm and 81mm mortars and create a supplementary heavy machine gun platoon. According to the Tuesday statement, the initiatives and additions will give the Marine Corps four wartime advantages: stronger power projection, especially in the Pacific; integrated autonomous and robotic systems; expanded training pipelines; and more specialized Marines in the force.

A significant part of the growth will enlarge the Corps’ infantry formations, adding 19 infantry battalions and two littoral combat teams staffed with Marines to create heavy guns platoons and expand precision fires, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.

REFERENCE: The Marine Times:

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/your-military/2026/09/02/marine-corps-to-add-6500-billets-in-force-expansion/>



THE MARINES



First Lieutenant Robert Murray Hanson (4 February 1920 – 3 February 1944) was a Marine flying ace who shot down 25 Japanese planes from the South Pacific skies. A member of VMF-215, flying the F4U-1 Corsair, the ace was shot down twice. He posthumously received the Medal of Honor.

Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aeterni

"Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever"

