



**CHESAPEAKE
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 853**



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SITREP
DETACHMENT 853 NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2026

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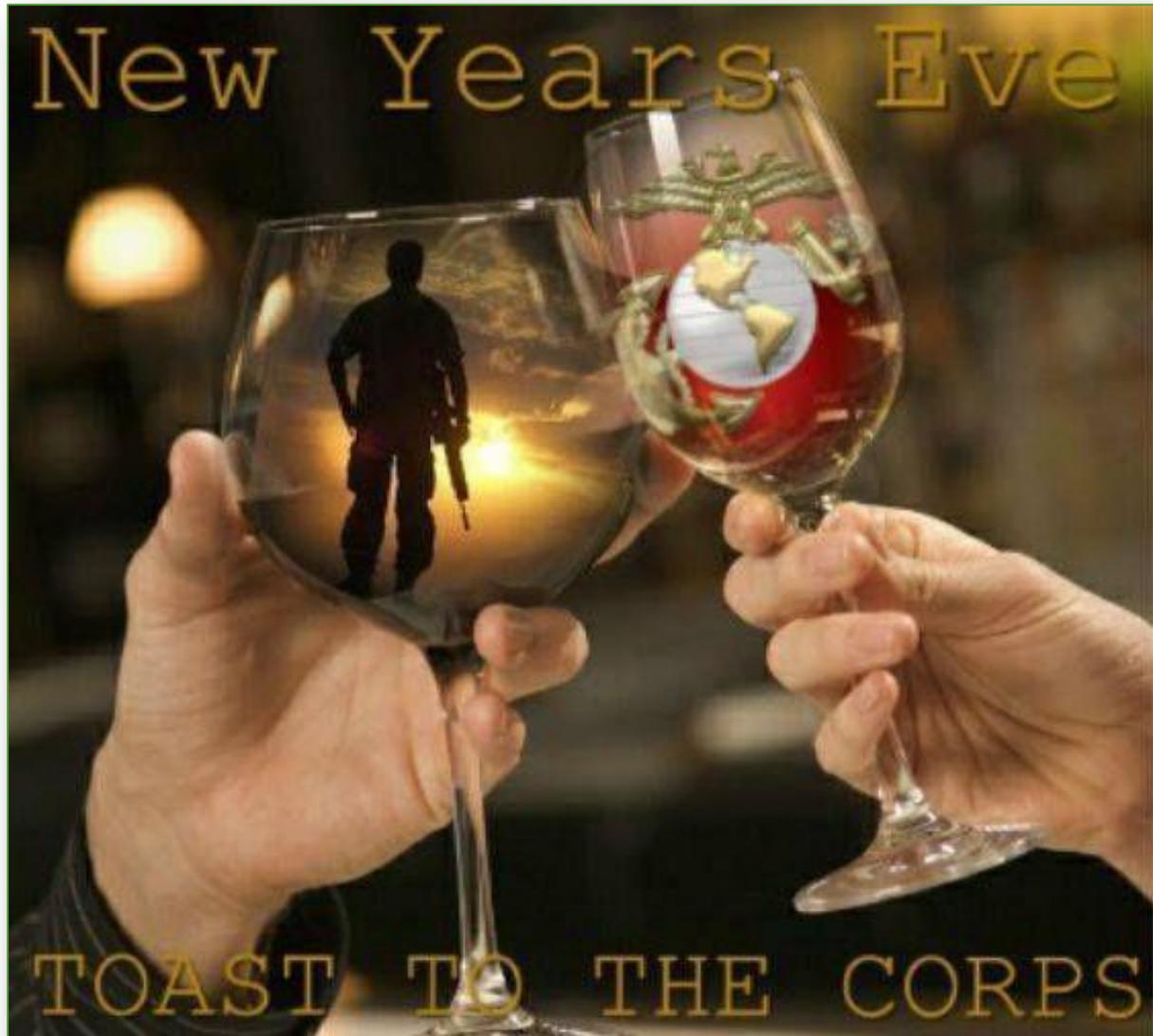
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HAPPY NEW YEAR MARINES!



“CHARLIE MIKE”

In 2025, Detachment 853 achieved significant milestones, showcasing our commitment to excellence and teamwork. We successfully completed various missions, enhanced our operational capabilities, increased our membership and fostered strong relationships with our city, military and veterans. As we move forward into the new year, we remain dedicated to “CHARLIE MIKE” CONTINUE MISSION: Building a brighter future for our veterans and active-duty Marines and Navy personnel and their families.



Detachment 853 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

During 2025, Detachment 853:

- Distributed 139 food baskets to Marine and Navy families in Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Chesapeake,
- Sponsored a concession stand at special events in the Hampton Coliseum.
- Fostered engagement and collaboration with the following Marine and Navy commands:
 1. Marine Force Command, Norfolk
 2. A Company, 4th Amphibious Assault BN, Norfolk
 3. Marine Security Forces Training Co, Chesapeake
 4. Naval Support Activity, Chesapeake
 5. Marine Air Control Squadron 24, Virginia Beach
 6. Marine Recruiting Sub-Station, Chesapeake
 7. Carrier Air Wing 1 (COMNAVAIRLANT)
- Attended Chesapeake's Memorial Day and Veterans Day Ceremonies.
- Attended Chesapeake Mayor's Breakfast to Honor Veterans
- Sold And Delivered Ice To Chesapeake Jubilee Vendors / City Departments
- Participated in the Great Bridge 42nd Christmas Parade
- To date, our website pages [ChesapeakeMCL.com] have been viewed 2,648 times by 21 countries, 26 U.S. states, and 119 cities around the world
- Enhanced our building by hanging up a new USMC recruiting poster and painting the Detachment's mailbox.
- Represented the Detachment at the Virginia Beach Marine Corps Ball
- Held monthly memberships meetings and quarterly trustee meetings
- Represented the Detachment at the MCL Virginia Department's meetings, the MCL Department of VA Spring Convention and attended the Mideast Division Conference
- Filed yearly corporate tax return with IRS
- Awarded Chesapeake Marine Corps League (CMCL) college scholarships to 7 Tidewater high school students.
- Donated money and material to nonprofit community organizations that provided support for our military and veterans.
- Received monetary donations from our life members and nonprofit organizations
- Met with the City's Parks & Recreation Director to discuss 2026 improvement plans for our building.
- Sworn in new CMCL members
- Retired damaged American flags throughout the year.
- Sworn in Detachment's 2026 Officers.
- Dismantled our deck, horseshoe pits and picnic table at the city's Parks and Recreation's request
- Sold Detachment's billiard table

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 – DECEMBER 2025

During the month of December, Detachment 853:

-  Held monthly Detachment meeting
-  Distributed annual Christmas food baskets to applicable junior enlisted Marine & Navy families
-  Sworn in 2026 Detachment officers and held a luncheon afterwards
-  Participated in the Great Bridge 42nd Christmas Parade
-  Sponsored a concession stand for special events at the Hampton Coliseum
-  Received a monetary donation from a life member and a nonprofit organization
-  Retired damaged American flags



DETACHMENT COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

I hope you all had a very safe and Merry Christmas, and now we look forward to a new year. The detachment met the needs of those families that needed support for the holiday seasons.

Marines Celebrating Their Birthdays This Month:

David Perdue 1/22

Everett Cossaboon 1/30

Marine Corps History For The Month Of January:

-  **1/2/1904:** U.S. Marines are sent to Santo Domingo to aid the government against rebel forces.
-  **1/6/1967:** U.S. and South Vietnamese Marines conduct amphibious operations in the Mekong Delta 62 miles south of Saigon.
-  **1/7/1993:** During Operation Restore Hope, 500 Marines engage in a shoot-out with Warlord Aidid's forces in Mogadishu.
-  **1/9/1861:** 30 Marines under 1stLt Andrew J Hays garrison Fort McHenry in Baltimore.
-  **1/10/1942:** LtCol Vernon M. Guymon takes command of the Marine Corps first glider unit.
-  **1/12/1990:** Operation Just Cause in Panama officially concludes.
-  **1/14/2011:** Operation Godfather begins to clear Durzay, the last holdout of the Taliban in Garmsir, Afghanistan.
-  **1/15/1919:** Marines and Haitian gendarmes fight bandits in the Battle of Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
-  **1/17/1991:** Start of Operation Desert Storm.
-  **1/18/1902:** The famous March Across Samar ends during the Philippine Insurrection.
-  **1/21/1968:** NVA troops begin shelling the Marine base at Khe Sanh.
-  **1/22/1969:** Operation Dewey Canyon begins in the A Shau/Da Krong Valleys in Vietnam.
-  **1/28/1914:** U.S. Marines land in Haiti to protect U.S. consulate.
-  **1/28/1922:** Marines from 8th & I Street Barracks assist in rescue efforts after the roof of the Knickerbocker Theatre in D.C. collapses due to heavy snow.
-  **1/31/1968:** Battle for Hue City begins as part of the Communist forces Tet Offensive.

Other January Events:

1/1/2026: New Years Day

1/27/2026: International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

As always, I and the Chesapeake Detachment wish you all a very safe and Happy New Year!

Semper Paratus!

Joe Hoadley

SR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

As the New Year begins, I want to express my gratitude to all our members for their ongoing support and commitment. The continued existence and success of Detachment 853 is attributed to the dedication of all our members.



On Saturday evening, December 6th, Detachment 853 supported the Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs by participating in Chesapeake's 42nd annual Christmas Parade. Our involvement showcased the Detachment's dedication to serving the community and celebrating the spirit of generosity throughout the Christmas season. This year's annual event featured 174 floats, a parade of horses, vehicles from the Police, Sheriff, and Fire Department, high school bands, cheerleaders, local veterans' organizations, and many other participants. The

most gratifying aspect of the evening was witnessing the excitement in the young children's eyes as they enthusiastically waved their hands and cheerfully shouted "Merry Christmas!" Representing Detachment 853 in the parade were Joe Hoadley, Wanda Hoadley, David Weber, and myself.



Burial At Sea

Honorably discharged veterans, retirees, active-duty service members, and their eligible dependents can be buried at sea by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard. Cremated remains are shipped via Priority Mail Express; casketed remains require specific preparation at the family's expense and can only be received in the ports of Norfolk, VA or San Diego, CA. The process can take up to 2 years to complete.

Now You Know The Rest Of The Story!

**May Your Best Of Last Year Be Your Worst Of This Year.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Semper Fi!
Ed Pearia

JR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

Happy New Year!

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,



JANUARY SAFTY TIP:

The cold and short days of winter can result in a winter depression, known as Seasonal Affective Disorder. This a type of depression following a seasonal pattern and typically occurring in late fall and winter. It is often a result of decreased daylight and involves changes in melatonin and serotonin production. **Symptoms include:**

-  Low mood or feeling of despair
-  Loss of pleasure in normal daily activities
-  Irritability
-  Lack of energy during the day
-  Difficulty “getting up” in the morning
-  Difficulty concentrating on tasks
-  Gaining that “winter weight”

Self-Help Suggestions:

1. Stay active in your daily lives. Don't just “sit around”.
2. Get outdoors for a dose of natural sunlight. This can help maintain your natural circadian rhythm.
3. Vitamin D supplements may help.
4. Severe cases may need medical attention.

The winter season need not adversely affect the start of your new year.

Let's keep active and be involved in the Detachment activities. Contact with your fellow Chesapeake Marine Corps League members can go a long way toward a great 2026!

Semper Fi!

David Weber

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

"In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety." Psalm 4:8

What a beautiful picture this creates in our minds. Sleeping peacefully because He provides safety and security to do so. What is your safety routine? Do you check the doors, the windows, the locks. and the alarm? Do you have a system for securing your home or space that allows you to rest comfortably? What do you do when that system is disrupted?

The Lord is mighty and creates a space of security around us that enables our hearts to rest.

"When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like the sea billows roll. Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say, 'It is well. It is well with my soul.'"

Thank you, sweet Jesus, for teaching us this truth. May we rest in your perfect peace.

Lord,

You are the source of peace. You create a secure space in which to rest, fully trusting in your power to protect us. Please continue to make this space available to us. Pour out presence into our situations and fill us with your love. Amen.

Prayer List :

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our Detachment's Marines: William Sweeney Sr, Mike Jeannotte, Gary Insley, Wayne Smith, Willmont "Griff" Griffin and his wife Tina, Pete Harris, and all members and their families facing health or personal challenges.

Semper Fi!

Rev. Dana Lortie,
MSgt (Ret).

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

MARINES,

CHESAPEAKE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 853
MINUTES OF 06 DECEMBER 2025

Opening Ceremony:

- Meeting was called to order by the Commandant at 1000 hours.
- Colors posted
- Pledge of Allegiance was made.
- Bible was opened and opening prayer was read.

Roll Call: 8 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. Willmont "Griff" Griffin, Past Commandant
7. Clay Edinger, Member
8. Dana Lortie, Chaplain

Order Of Business:

- Application for membership:
 1. No applications were submitted.
- Minutes of November meeting were distributed and read. Motion was made they be approved. Motion was seconded and approved.
- Commandant reported on correspondence since the last meeting
- 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 sometime next year he and his wife will be relocating to Florida. Life member Pete Harris and his wife made a monetary donation (commissary gift cards) to our food baskets program.
 2. Senior Vice Commandant announced the Detachment's billiard table was sold at our asking price. Member, Bill Fogle, is in sunny Arizona for the duration of the holiday season.
 3. Junior Vice Commandant announced that we now have all sizes of MCL covers in stock.
 4. Judge Advocate announced that MACS-24 and Carrier Air Wing 1 will be picking up their Christmas food baskets today and A Company, 4th Amphibious Assault BN will be picking up their Christmas food baskets on Wednesday, the 10th.
 5. Quartermaster announced the vendor that has been embroidering our shirts has gone out of business and he has since secured a new vendor to take his place.

Unfinished business:

- No unfinished business

New business:

- Motion was made to sell the Detachment's desk. After a discussion, the motion was tabled until next year.
- 2026 Detachment's Officers were sworn in:
 - 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.
- Meeting Closed at 1130 Hours

Semper Fi!
Ed Pearia,

ANNOUNCEMENTS



HEADS UP!

**JANUARY DETACHMENT MEETING
THURSDAY, 22 JANUARY, 1900 HOURS**

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- January ~ Trustee Meeting; Date & Time To Be Decided (TBD)
- 22 January ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 26 February ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 26 March ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- April ~ Trustee Meeting; Date & Time To Be Decided (TBD)
- 23 April ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 25 May ~ Memorial Day
- 28 May ~ Detachment Members' Meeting, Thursday, 1900 Hours
- 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
- 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
- December ~ Trustee Meeting; Date & Time To Be Decided (TBD)
- November Detachment Members' Meeting, TBA
- December Detachment Member Meeting TBA





PASSING OF A MARINE: MARINE FUNERAL HONORS



Military funeral procedures, known as Military Funeral Honors, provide a dignified tribute involving at least two uniformed personnel from the Marine Corps. The ceremony typically includes folding and presenting the U.S. flag to the next of kin, playing Taps, a rifle salute (three volleys), and in some cases pallbearers.

To request military honors for a Marine, the **family (next-of-kin)** or **the funeral director** contacts the Marine Corps Funeral Honors office (HQMC) at 866-826-3628. Typically, the funeral director is the primary contact. He will handle the request with the appropriate military branch. In this case, the Marine Corps.

INFORMATION NEEDED BEFORE REQUESTING MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS:

- **Proof of Service:** The Marine's DD 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) is essential to prove eligibility. If you need a copy of the veteran's DD 214, submit an emergency request for military records to the National Archives.
- **Next-of-Kin (NOK) Info:** The un-remarried widow/widower, son, daughter, father, mother, brother, or sister.
- **Service Details:** Name, dates of service, and funeral/burial details.

It is highly recommended the requests for military honors be made at least 7 days in advance of the funeral service.





FORMER CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

General Colin Powell's Thoughts On Leadership

THOUGHT #4

“Don't be afraid to challenge the pros,
even in their own backyard.”

“Learn from the pros, observe them, seek them out as mentors and partners. But remember that even the pros may have leveled out in terms of their learning and skills. Sometimes even the pros can become complacent and lazy. Leadership does not emerge from blind obedience to anyone. Xerox's Barry Rand was right on target when he warned his people that if you have a yes-man working for you, one of you is redundant. Good leadership encourages everyone's evolution.”

To Be Continued...



DID YOU KNOW.....

Ted Williams, The Red Sox legend, served as a Marine aviator during both World War II and the Korean War?



Ted Williams had a distinguished military career as a decorated U.S. Marine Corps combat pilot, serving in both World War II and the Korean War, where he flew numerous combat missions and even crash-landed a jet, missing several prime years of his legendary baseball career but earning immense respect for his service and skill as an aviator. He was commissioned as a Marine aviator in 1944, served as an instructor, and was recalled for the Korean War in 1952, flying dangerous missions before leaving service in 1953 due to health issues, proud of his contributions both on and off the field.

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

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



“You Are What You Do... Not What You Say You’re Going To Do.”
— Carl Jung



- Any member 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!**
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Corps Updates Physical Fitness Test Standards For Combat MOS Marines

By Bridget Craig

Thursday, Dec 18, 2025



The U.S. Marine Corps is slated to implement a sex-neutral physical fitness test scoring system for Marines with combat military occupational specialties beginning Jan. 1, 2026, according to a recent [service memo](#).

The physical fitness updates, which also include changes to the service's body composition standards, follow a September memorandum from Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth that emphasized more strict fitness requirements for troops.

Starting Jan. 1, combat arms Marines will be required to attain a minimum PFT score of 210 points, or at least 70% of a perfect score.

If Marines do not meet the requirement by the end of the reporting period, they will either be assigned to remedial physical training, reclassified with a new MOS or restricted from promotion, the release said.

“Our combat arms MOSs requires rigorous physical readiness for direct ground combat,” Col. James Derrick, director of the Marine Corps Training and Education Command, said in a release. “These changes ensure all combat arms Marines meet the same high sex-neutral standards.”

Non-combat arms Marines will continue to be tested with the existing sex- and age-normed standards, while all combat Marines, regardless of sex, will face male, age-normed guidelines.

In addition to the PFT, the Marine Corps is replacing its height and weight standards and tape test with a waist-to-height ratio methodology. Those changes, meanwhile, are expected to be phased in overtime.

Service-specific body composition standards will be published once the defense secretary provides further guidance, the release stated.

Changes to the PFT are being made in accordance to Hegseth's Sept. 30 memo “to ensure every service member meets the physical demands of combat and leads by example,” a MarAdmin released Thursday stated.

Speaking to hundreds of top military officials at Marine Corps Base Quantico in September, Hegseth emphasized that combat effectiveness “all starts with physical fitness and appearance.”

“Frankly, it's tiring to look out at combat formations, or really any formation, and see fat troops,” Hegseth said.

While the new PFT standards will go into effect in the new year, additional Manpower Information Systems updates are expected to be gradually applied over six to eight months, the release stated, with full installment expected within a year.



THE MARINES



Major General Marion Eugene Carl (November 1, 1915 – June 28, 1998) was a World War II fighter ace, record-setting test pilot, and USMC aviator. He was the United States Marine Corps' first ace in World War.

In 1998, at age 82, he was shot to death during a robbery, defending his wife from a home invader.

Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aeterni

"Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever"

