

**Marine Corps League
Baltimore Detachment #565**



1426 East Fort Avenue (#17 Fire House)
Baltimore, Maryland 21230-5247
Phone: 410-547-7699
<http://www.mclbaltimore.org>
Email: mclbaltimore@gmail.com



BALTIMORE GUNG HO



*March – April 2022 * Vol. 26, No.2 * Editor Stuart Blair*

Memoriam of Marine Daniel Donnelly / 29 January 2022

MCL Dept. of Maryland Staff Meeting . . . Essential info shared . . . Awards presented

The Department of Maryland met for the Quarterly Staff Meeting on Saturday 19 February, hosted by the Anne Arundel Detachment @ the VFW Post 160 in Glen Burnie. Department Commandant Howard Koontz, Jr. presided over a very productive meeting with all but 3 detachments present.

Reports from department officers, programs, and detachment reps. were presented with much interaction from the staff. A great deal of essential information was shared with a lively discussion about the problems of the roster not being correct. One of the problems is the Paid Life Members not being followed up and the list of deceased being held in the active list. It is most important that each detachment go through the complete roster, contacting each member to see if they are still with us. Hopefully this will be resolved in the near future.

2021 MCL National Convention Awards were presented to the detachments that were present. The National Newsletter Competition Recognition award for an outstanding newsletter went to Baltimore Detachment 565, Editor Stuart Blair. The Department of Maryland was awarded the Meritorious Commendation (unit). Each member in good standing is authorized to wear the National Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon.

Mention was made about submitting names for MOY and AOY. Use the same format for both selections. Names for the Legion of Honor of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains need to be submitted. All nominees should be submitted ASAP for any awards.

Our next Staff Meeting will be hosted by the Free State Detachment 544 at the American Legion Post 66, Bowie, MD on 9 April



*MCL National Newsletter Award Presentation
DM Cmdt. Howard Koontz, Jr. * Marine Stuart Blair
Balto Det. Cmdt. Marian James*



Commandant's Message

Greetings,

Things have not gone as planned but it is the early part of the New Year and getting close to the end of the 2021-2022 Detachment year. We again say "Thank You" to everyone who participated in our Toys for Tots Program by either purchasing a toy or making a monetary donation. By the time you receive this publication, we will have completed our next project of selecting the Marine of the Year and the newly implemented award for Associate of the Year, and we expect to have some great nominations for both awards.

During this period, we will celebrate the lives of the Four Chaplains of World War II who gave their lives so that four young shipmates could continue to live. Additionally, we will have our Department of Maryland Marine Corps League State Meeting which in Glen Burnie where we hope to hear some solutions to our Membership Roster problems. Members of our Detachment will attend the Marine Corps League Midwinter Conference in Norfolk, Virginia. Our State Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn in Ocean City, Maryland, May 5-7, 2022, and we hope to see you there. You may register online with the Department and make your hotel reservations on your own. This year our State Convention will be different from our past conventions but hopefully everyone will have a great time and we look forward to your attendance.

Students have been attending school this year and we hope that we will be able to present awards this year for our Scholarship Program with Frances Scott Key Elementary/Middle School. It will be great to see who the best students are this year after not having a program for the past two years.

As volunteers at the VA, we should commend the workers for the care that they have taken to ensure that VA hospitalized veterans obtained the best and safest care possible during the extreme and destructive periods of the COVID-19 virus. The VA is looking for volunteers so if you have some time to spare, please contact the volunteer office. However, you must have taken your flu shot and have your COVID information to present if you have not already done so. Additionally, you must have a valid ID and completed your annual training. We look forward to our regular volunteers and some new members of our Detachment volunteering.

Our last meeting was virtual, and we will obtain more information at our next VAVS meeting. We also look forward to a more detailed update of what is going on at the VA at our State Convention. We were unable to spend Valentine's Day at Loch Raven with the Gold Star Mothers of Maryland this year. However, as of this date, twenty-one Afghans have been made and it is our hope that we will be able to participate in one of the programs sponsored by the VA later in the year. It is very rewarding to spend time with our veterans and the Gold Star Mothers on Valentine's Day and we hope that we can again resume our Special Day.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian C. James, Commandant



Before the remaining U.S. Marines departed the United States embassy in Saigon in April 1975, on March 29, 1973, the last American combat troops withdrew from Vietnam.

It is a day that only recently was designated by Congress as a national day of honor where the flag is displayed in recognition of all who participated in the hotly debated conflict.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day will be observed on **Tuesday, March 29, 2022**. Organizers canceled or postponed many events to slow the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing. Veterans are encouraged to stay connected and participate in virtual events

Sr. Vice Commandant's Message

Greeting Marines,

It looks like Spring is right and around the corner and day light saving time is here.

I have attended two Memorial Rituals in the past month and as of this writing getting ready to attend the National Mid Winter Conference in Norfolk VA.

There is not much scheduled for March, the monthly detachment meeting on Friday March 25th and there will be building maintenance taking place on Wednesday and Saturdays. A helping hand is always needed.

In April there will be a Department Staff Meeting hosted by the Free State Detachment in Bowie MD. on 9 April. All are invited to attend.

Just a reminder the Department of Maryland MCL Convention is in May make your reservations now.

Semper Fi,
Earl Ruff, Jr., SVC

MCL Department of Maryland Convention May 5-7, 2022

Holiday Inn Ocean Front
6600 Coastal Highway
Ocean City, MD 21842
Phone: 410-524-1600
Website: <https://www.holidayinnoceanfront.com/>

The Holiday Inn Ocean Front has set aside a block of rooms for the Marine Corps League Department Convention. Rooms are one double or two double. No Queen or King. No kitchen but Microwave and fridge. Pets are welcome. All pets and owners will have their own floor. The 2nd floor has been reserved for our fur babies. No extra charge. Check in time: 4:00 p.m.

Room Rate: Thursday Garden View \$84.00 (plus tax)
South Ocean View \$94.00 (plus tax) Eastern Ocean View \$99.00 (plus tax) Room Rate: Friday & Saturday: Garden View \$154.00 (plus tax) South Ocean View \$169.00 (plus tax) Eastern Ocean View \$184.00 (plus tax)

*DEADLINE DATES FOR YOUR ACTION:
Hotel Reservations: 5 April
For hotel reservations, use code: MAR

Jr. Vice Commandant Message

Greeting Marines,

The long, cold winter is almost over; things are beginning to warm up. Valentines have been sent and received by folks that still let the love light shine. The MCL Midwinter Conference in Norfolk is history. The Winter Olympics is over and done with. Super Bowl LVI is history, the LA Rams are the new world champions, winning a pretty darn good game, with real classic plays, not the last second field goal kick that we have seen so often in nail biter games this year. We are all feeling ready for some sunshine and camaraderie, so let's "just do it". It's time for us to get back in the normal flow of things and enjoy our Detachment, Detachment home and activities. Over the past few months, we have sadly lost some really good guys, gone to stand in front of the Supreme Commander. Saying that, it's also time to renew our efforts to increase our membership. If you truly enjoy the company of your fellow Marines, let's get back into the swing of things and along the way, find us some new recruits for the Detachment. If you like working to improve the image of the Corps and be a vital part of the Locust Point community where we meet and the city, in general, let's show off. Adding new members, new ideas, and new personalities means we can be more and do more. The larger our membership, the greater good we can do. I encourage each and every one of us to work at achieving that goal.

Semper Fidelis.
Ray Vaughn, JVC

Detachment Home Dispatch

Ernie Disney and Milt Hazzard continue to work tirelessly on building upkeep and maintenance. They weekly vacuum, clean, dust, put out trash for pick-up, refill towel and toilet dispensers, shovel snow when needed, clean street gutters when needed, and do whatever needs to be done. When he is available, Earl Ruff helps out. They do all this while mostly Ernie, along with Jack, works in the office on paperwork for IRS 501 (3) (c) approval.

In additional to all of the above, Ernie and Milt have had several other T. A. D's

A couple of years ago the USMC Toys For Tots program produced dozens if not a couple hundred stuffed toys/animals that T for T would not take. They ended up stored in our storage room, taking up space. During Christmas 2021, Milt found an organization to take them and Ernie and Milt cleared up our storage space.

The attic clean-up found a dozen or more wooden hangers, several bathroom type mirrors, and several ceiling type audio speakers. These items are free for the asking. The clean-up also produced a pickup truck load of trash that needs to be taken to the dump. If you can help with this, please contact us @ 410/547-7699.

In case some of you have not noticed, several of the rooms we use have "drop" ceilings. During the 2nd week of February, some sagging ceiling tiles were noticed next to the upstairs Auxiliary meeting room. Upon inspection, Ernie and Milt found that the original ceiling is deteriorating and falling onto the drop ceiling. They are in the process of doing what they can to fix this problem.

Party rentals, which Ernie also works, slowed for the winter, but are slowly picking up.

SPECIAL NOTE

The First MCL Dept. of MD License Tags were issued 30 years ago, 20 February 1992.

Baltimore Detachment Hall Rental

If you know of someone who is looking for a hall to rent, please keep your Detachment Hall in mind. We can seat 100 comfortably. Keep promoting the hall rental. Information call: Ernie Disney @ 410-977-7975.



Semper Fi Prayer Circle

"And the Prayer of Faith shall save the sick, and the LORD shall raise him up"

The only verse in Scripture that contains the phrase, "Prayer of Faith", is James 5:15. Though spoken of only once, the prayer title conveys an assurance of success in prayer. The conviction that life, if lived with Faith in God, rewards with an Eternity spent in God's presence, encourages us to believe that Faith accomplishes whatever it sets out to do. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and **this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our Faith**" (1John 5:4). With the Promise of victory beforehand, prayer linked by Faith that is founded in God assures itself to be both rewarding and exciting in "exploits" for God. "The people that do **know** their God shall be strong, and do exploits" (Daniel 11:32).

Many times prayer does not yield the desired results we yearn for. "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick" (Proverbs 13:12). Hope precedes all prayer, but only when the answer comes do we recognize the difference that Faith makes in praying. "But when the desire cometh, it is a Tree of Life" (13:12). Picture lightning. When God's will makes contact with our hope, Faith is established and grace races down the lightning rod of experience. Faith is the way you use God's grace. It's our part to exercise the Faith God authors, but it's God's part to finish it.

Taps

Marine Daniel Donnelly. 29 January 2022 was called by the Supreme Commandant. May he rest in peace and that his survivors attain peace during their grieving process.

Sick / Distressed

Prayers go to those on our "Sick and Distress Betty Thompson, Don Rollete, Dorris Rollete (wife of Marine Don Rollete), Will Priest, Harry Carroll, George Adams, Jerry Brown and wife Cass, and Rick Gurly.

Most High God, god that Liveth, Heal and deliver all of us that are in need of your healing, mercy and grace Amen.

If you know of anyone sick or in distress, please call: Chaplain Harry Hierstetter. & Judith Hoffman 410-296-1088 / Email: 1stsgtjwhusmc@comcast.net

As always may God's blessing be with all military and their families

*Harry Hierstetter / Judith Hoffman
Chaplains*



**Maryland Veterans
Commission**

Auxiliary



*Reaching Further . . .
. . . Touching More*

MVC Quarterly Meeting

On Tuesday 18 January 2022 the Maryland Veterans Commission held their quarterly meeting was held virtually by zoom and phone communication with 18 Commissioner participating representing VSOs and congressional districts, representing the Marine Corps League was Commissioner Stuart Blair, PDC.

MDVA Deputy Secretary Bob Finn Report:

Updates of the following were reported

- ✓ Maryland Veterans Trust Fund:
Since the current fiscal year began on July 1, 2021: \$220,000 has been given in the form of grants to Maryland Veterans.
- ✓ Women Veteran Focus Groups to be held in February. These will be led by Roslyn Jones, MDVA Women Veterans/Inclusion Program Manager. Veterans Cemeteries
* All year 8:00 AM – 4:45 PM
- ✓ Legislation of interest to Veterans has been filed by the members of the Maryland General Assembly.
Contact: [thistleman@verizon](mailto:thistleman@verizon.com) for update on veteran's legislative bills.

Presentations

- ✓ **Department of Aging**
Secretary Rona Kramer and Dr. Ian Edwards.
- ✓ **Serving Together**
Jason Marshall, Program Manager
- ✓ **108 Organization**
Troy Jones, CEO/Stephen Walwyn/
Maurice Knox

**Details on above reports, contact Stuart Blair:
thistleman@verizon.net*

Sub Committee Reports

- ✓ Cynthia Macri:
Combating Substance Misuse Impacting Maryland's Veterans and Their Families

Next MVC meeting will be Tuesday April 19, 2022
100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD 21032,

*S/F,
Stuart Blair
Commissioner, MCL*

Greetings,

On Saturday February 19, the Dept. of Maryland MCLA held the quarterly meeting at VFW Post 160, Glen Burnie.

Our guest speaker was Edna Vages from Community Wellness Center, treating adults and children facing homelessness, mental illness and substance abuse. We donated home care items.

Nominations of Department officers were discussed. Our annual project, contribution of needed items for Operation Little Angel was offered by our department units. Also discussed was the need to continue the mission of helping our military veterans and their families, along with the community.

Operation Little Angel

Our Mission is to value and celebrate life shortened by miscarriage, still birth and early infant death while honoring and supporting families in their grief.

Our Mission

We serve Marines & their families, veterans & their families, and women and children throughout the State of Maryland by participating in a wide variety of programs that benefit the veterans and the community

In order to have more members for our mission we must continue to recruit. Let us join together to grow our family in 2022.

*God bless America,
Bernadine Blair, PDP*

Military Order of the Devil Dogs

*The Fun and Honor Society
of the Marine Corps League*



Woof woof,

Merlin Pack Growl

The Merlin Pack growled on 19 February at VFW Post 160. PDD Pat Sharkey led the Pack in a fun and active gathering of dogs. Moments of dog brain farts might have caused PDD Sharkey lost for barking out fines for dog infractions. Many bones were stuck to our paws.

Pups were presented to the Jr. Vice Pack Leader, sworn into the order and assigned duties, Time Keeper, Mascot Handler, and Seeing Eye Dog.

Mentioned was Pack Dog of the Year nominations due Pack Growl, 9 April

Hound Dog Pound 204 Growl

On 20 February, Pound 204 growled at VFW Post 160 after many dogs consumed their morning dog chow,

Pound Keeper PDD Paul Gunther barked out the ritual as he called out Dog titles with dogs' responses fumbling through with their identity. Many bones were donated with fines demanded by the Pound Keeper. The Pups were presented to the Pound Keeper offering several bones for their errors.

Dog Trainer PDD Leonard Stielper conducted a memorial service for PDD Dan Donnelly, recently passed on to Canine Heaven.

The Growl concluded with barking of shirts request and a donation to the bar keep.

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog

Schedule

Merlin Pack Growl

Saturday 9 April 2022
following the Dept. of Maryland Staff Meeting

Merlin Pack Grand Growl

Dept. of Maryland Convention
Friday 6 May 1300

Woof woof,
PDD Stuart Blair
Barking Dog

MCL Boy Scout Program

"On My Honor"



**BSA and the MCL
Strengthen relationship
Supporting America's youth**

The Marine Corps League believes strongly that our youth are our future and that it is our responsibility to prepare them for that future. The Scout Oath and Law that the BSA instills in youth is a strong foundation for future success. The Boy Scouts of America and Marine Corps League are excited about formalizing and strengthening our relationship and the future opportunities for us to work together to support America's youth!

Good Citizenship Awards presented

In the first two quarters of the fiscal year 2021-2022 there have been (101) presentations of the Eagle Scout "Good Citizenship Awards by 10 detachments.

Remember the "Square Knot Award"

This Award is presented annually to a MCL member directly associated as leader / counselor with a Boy Scout Troop. Criteria/Registration form - online mclnational.org/youthdevelopmentprograms

Square Knot Award Criteria

The Community Organization Award is designed to recognize Marine Corps League members who are actively involved in the Scouting program. This award is not meant to be a selective or limited award, but one that is available to any Marine Corps League member who completes the requirements for the award. The award is meant to recognize the dedication and work required by a Marine Corps League member to assist in furthering the Scouting program in the Marine Corps League.

The award is a gold and purple square knot, which is worn only on the Scout uniform. A congratulatory letter from the Marine Corps League National Boy Scout Committee Chair is included as recognition for this award. Department or Detachment Commandants may recognize MCL members who earn this award as they deem appropriate,

S/F,
Stuart Blair, Chairman
Boy Scout Program
MCL Dept. of Maryland

Detachment Programs

Detachment General Fund

Pick Three Lottery Calendar Fundraiser

The proceeds from this are used for detachment general expenses, assistance to a detachment Marine or family member in need and the Baltimore Green St. VA Medical Center Project

Monthly calendar winners for December 2021:

01Dec21	George Williams	#625	\$25.00
02Dec21	Kay LaHatte	#468	\$25.00
03Dec21	Janeen McClean	#203	\$25.00
04Dec21	Marian James	#451	\$25.00
10Dec21	Jayne Hansen	#415	\$25.00
15Dec21	Marie Thompson	#365	\$25.00
20Dec21	Marlen Johnson	#011	\$25.00
21Dec21	Gloria Carroll	#158	\$25.00
23Dec21	Darryl Fussell	#223	\$25.00
24Dec21	Daryl Baylor	#519	\$25.00
26Dec21	Janice J. Cornish	#177	\$25.00

During the month the fund had eleven (11) winners, all won \$25.00
Resulting in a payout of \$275.00 and leaving a balance in the fund
Of \$2,455.00 at the end of December 2021.

Final report for 2021 Calendar Fund Raiser

2021 Calendar Fund Raiser

Sales	\$4,615.00
Payments (82 winners)	(2,160.00)
Surplus	\$2,445.00
Printing Expenses	(320.00)
Postage	(45.10)
Surplus to General Fund	\$2,089.90
Reported as	\$2,090.00

Marine Corps History Question of the Month

In each month's "GUNG HO" we will feature a question about U.S. Marine Corps history. The question will test your knowledge of well known facts of Marine Corps.

The answer to each question will be published in the following issue.

Answer to January – February Question

February 1922, what USMC officer was appointed U.S. High Commissioner and personal representative of the President to the government of Haiti? This nine-year assignment placed this future Commandant in supreme command of both the occupying American force and the Haitian Gendarmerie.

BGen John H. Russell

March – April Question

On April 27, 1805, First Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon and seven other Marines, along with Greek and Arab forces, who were under the command of American Consul raised the American flag over the fortress at Derne, a pirate stronghold in Tripoli. Who was the American Consul ?

- a) Samuel Garmin
- b) Richard Norland
- c) Jonathan Cohenolcomb
- d) William Eaton

Members Birthdays

We would like to wish the following Marines a "**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**" and many more:

MARCH - BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Robert J. Holmes, William S. Shea, William P. Davis, Louis R. Twigg, Sr., Philip P. Sullivan, Robert E. Walton, Jr., Earl C. Ruff Jr, Garry M. Simms, Joseph W. Meyer, Ernest G. Disney, Michael A. Lewis and Jerard Sweetwine.

APRIL - BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATIONS

Thomas F. Petty, John L. Voigt, Robert S. Funk, Errol M. Markowitz, William B. Lotman Sr, Merrill R. Cohen and James G. Saufley.

Marines, if you had a birthday this month and your name did not appear, please let me know.

Stuart Blair, 410-665-6440,
Email: thistleman@verizon.net

BALTIMORE
GUNG HO

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
BALTIMORE DETACHMENT

1426 East Fort Avenue (#17 Fire House)
Baltimore, Maryland 21230-5247



NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
BALTIMORE MD
PERMIT NO. 5964

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

"To observe a Marine is inspirational, to be a Marine is exceptional."

Marine Barracks Evening Parade . . . A Patriotic Tradition

The "Oldest Post of the Corps," was established in 1801, and has performed military reviews and ceremonies since its founding. The present-day Evening Parade was first conducted on July 5, 1957.

The presidential inaugurations and specific occasions prompted the parades and ceremonies conducted at the Barracks during the early 1900s. The traditional reveille and morning muster parades were conducted with varying frequency at the post, and they eventually resulted in more formalized ceremonies. In 1934, when MajGen. John H. Russell, Jr. was the 16th Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Barracks initiated its first season of regularly scheduled weekly parades. The parades were conducted in the late afternoon, usually on Mondays or Thursdays and varied from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The parades were commonly referred to as "Sunset Parades." The ceremonies were from April to November, concluding the week of the Marine Corps Birthday.

The basic format for today's Evening Parade was similar to that envisioned and directed by Col. Emile P. Moses and Maj. Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., Marine Barracks' Commanding Officer and Executive Officer respectively, in 1934. Col. Moses and Maj. Shepherd (who later became the 20th Commandant of the Marine Corps), sighted the symmetry of the parade deck: Bordered on its long axis by graceful maple trees and shrubs fronting officer's row and the barracks' administrative offices, to the north of the picturesque home of the Commandant, and to the south the Marine Band Hall made famous by the immortal John Philip Sousa. They conceived a balanced pageant that would perfectly match the splendor of its old fashioned setting. The shadowy arcade was envisioned by Major Shepherd, "as wings to a stage, a runway which Marines would march to the parade deck."

Using the resplendent setting of the Barracks, wistful imagination and the Marines' flare for showmanship, the parades were to be a showcase for the ceremonial prowess of Marines and the musical eminence of the U.S. Marine Band, which had achieved international renown under the premier military band leader of all time, John Philip Sousa.

In planning the parade sequence and format, Colonel Leonard F. Chapman Jr., the future 24th Commandant of the Marine Corps, insisted that the parade adhere to strict regulations. The parade drill would be without fancy theatrics, which frequently characterized drill routines of that period. Since its inception, the Evening Parade has become a unique patriotic tradition of the "Oldest Post of the Corps"..