

ScuttleButt



**Mission First,
Marines Always**

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John Contos

Jr. Vice Commandant:
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MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DETACHMENT 1340
VOLUME VII, ISSUE IX **October/ December 2017**

FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines thank you for all your support throughout the year. Like I said in our last meeting, the year is not over yet and we still have up and coming Toys For Tots events.

This year was challenging at times, but we Adapted, Improvised and Overcame these obstacles and accomplished our task. I am so grateful for the officers who I served with, because they stepped up in my place when I was not available. Their support and effort made this year a successful one and our Ball was a great representation of that.

We are Marines for life and I want to emphasize once again that I am there for you if you need anything.

I also look forward in seeing you all for our first MCL 1340 Christmas Dinner. This will be a great opportunity to see each other one last time before Christmas and New Years.

Once again thank you and Semper Fi Marines.

George Moran





To begin receiving your electronic issues of MCL1340's ScuttleButt, send an email to the Adjutant at:
romanrae@comcast.net

To obtain Archived issues of the ScuttleButt newsletter, contact the Adjutant at:
romanrae@comcast.net

To advertise on *ScuttleButt* or our webpage contact any MCL1340 Executive Officer of: **www.mcl1340.org**

Advertisement price is dependent on image size and duration required. Yearly payment pays for 10 issues of ScuttleButt, reaching almost 50 paid members, 4 associate

members and an estimated 60 supporters of veterans and 30 business establishments in this area.

Mailing and Donation Address:

Coastal Valleys
Detachment 1340
Marine Corps League
P.O. Box 2325 Orcutt, CA
93457-2325

Marine Corps League, Department of California

Dues renewal information

As adopted by the Board of Trustees at the 2017 Spring Conference in Clovis, the Department of CA dues will be waived for yearly members with expiration dates of 4/1/2017 thru 8/1/2017. These members will still need to pay the reduced amount of \$10.00 to National. All members will be receiving a 9/1/17 expiration date and National will no longer be sending out renewal notices so it will be up to the Detachments to notify their members when they need to pay dues. Once a member has the new 9/1/17 expiration date, the dues go back to the regular amount of \$20.00 to National and \$9.00 to Department.

Members who expired prior to 4/1/2017 will still need to pay the \$9.00 Department dues and the appropriate National amount. If you are uncertain please send me an email or give me a call.



The next
MCL1340
meeting is
Jan. 23rd,
2018 at the
Santa Maria
Veterans
Building;
@1830



311VET is an Android and iPhone app that will help you find general information about VA Benefits anywhere & any time.
311VET answers and alerts are always free of charge

Founded in 1923 by Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune, the Marine Corps League is the only federally chartered Marine Corps-related veteran's organization in the United States.



Our League was recently honored with an Award from the Honor Flight Group and we were also able to send J. Runge to Washington DC to visit the memorials.



FROM THE SR. VICE-COMMANDANT

It's the yearend and we made it through with successful events. I want to thank all of you who made those events a profitable accomplishment for the benefit of our league. These achievements show what the corps members of our group can attain because of their enthusiasm and dedication to the success of this league. I encourage other members of our league to look at the example of those who are carrying the load making this a worthwhile and proud group of Marines and associates. We had our annual BBQ which was a success, our Elks parade with a decent turnout, a shotgun raffle where Rich Horner sold an outstanding number of tickets and the Marine Corps Birthday Ball which was a sellout. Again it was the corps members who made these events such a success. Now that our bank is looking healthy we must be diligent in our contributions as we have no assurance of upcoming incomes.

Ok, it's time to look to the coming year. We have elections for our board beginning with our meeting in January. You are encouraged to attend and take an active part in shaping the success of the league. I believe it is unity which makes for the firm foundation of any organization and that unity comes from membership participation. Attend the meetings and you will be surprised at the friendships you will develop.

Again thanks to all of you who made this a profitable year

Semper Fi
John Contos
Senior Vice

gung ho

PRONUNCIATION:
(GUHNG-HO)

MEANING:

adjective: Extremely eager and enthusiastic.

ETYMOLOGY:

From Chinese gonghe, an acronym from the Gongye Hezuoshe (Chinese Industrial Cooperative Society). The term gonghe was interpreted to mean "work together" and was introduced as a training slogan by US Marine Corps officer Evans Carlson (1896-1947). Earliest documented use: 1942.



DETACHMENT UNIFORM



It is requested that MCL1340 members wear black slacks, black shoes,

MCL red shirt with cover to all memorial services and prestigious events. This is so we can show a uniformed presence when representing MCL1340. The local business AD Embroidery can embroider the MCL1340 emblem on your shirts for \$15.00, located at 742 East Arctic Ave. # D, Santa Maria, Calif.

It is also requested that MCL1340 members wear black slacks, black shoes, and MCL red shirt with cover to all memorial services. This is so we can show the proper respect when representing Marine Corps League 1340 and in showing respect to our fallen Marines.



MCL1340 CALENDER

Dec 1 MCL1340 Toys for Tots Campaign begins

Dec 22 MCL1340 Toys for Tots Distribution @ SM Armory

Jan 23, 2018 MCL1340 meeting at SM Veterans Building @ 1830

Honorary Members of MCL1340

The following individuals have been awarded Honorary Membership into Marine Corps League 1340 Chapter due to their continued support, community service and in the upholding of our Marine Corps values and traditions:

Bob Hatch; Danny Macagni; State Senator Sam Blakeslee; Victor Cardial WWII; (posthumously); Donald Wick, WWII (posthumously); Paul Spiese, WWII (posthumously); Michael Clayton; Maggie Espinoza; R. Lee Erme; Michael Stadnick



MEETING MINUTES AND INFORMATION



In addition to our monthly ScuttleButt Newsletter being published electronically, our meeting minutes will also be posted electronically. MCL1340 now has its own webpage. Visit www.MCL1340.org today. If you wish to receive issues of the *ScuttleButt*, please Email romanrae@comcast.net

The staff will also attempt a three month cycle to our meetings. The cycle would revolve around meetings with a Guest Speaker, Special Event and our traditional Business Meetings. Our hope is this cycle of meetings will improve meeting attendance and member involvement.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.MCL1340.ORG

MEETINGS...IN ANY CLIME AND PLACE



You are always Welcome to Attend.
The next MCL1340 meeting is the 4th Tuesday of the
Month at 1830 (6:30 p.m.)
**UNLESS DIRECTED, ALL MCL1340 MEETINGS WILL BE AT
THE SANTA MARIA VETERANS BUILDING
313 W. TUNNEL STREET, SANTA MARIA, CA 93458
Contact: Commandant George Moran (805) 732-0256**



FROM THE JR-VICE COMMANDANT

Marines and associate members,

Another year is just about over and Christmas is just around the corner. At this writing we are almost at the end of our Toys for Tots campaign. A couple of more weeks and we will have accomplished another feat for the children in the community.

We have accomplished much in the past year and we should be proud of that. We continue to reach out to other veterans and make ourselves as visible as possible. We have met new friends and we lost a few along the way. And we keep going forward.

Elections are coming up and I would encourage our new members to seriously consider playing a bigger role in the unit. We have a great time together when we get a chance to gather and just hang out. We need to that more often.

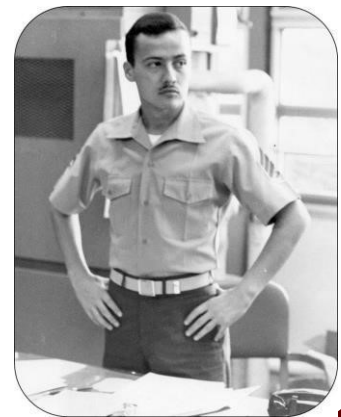
I have to thank all of you who made my year a great year. You were with us during the parade, Veterans day, the honor guard at the football game, the Ball and Toys for Tots. I cannot thank each and everyone of you for what you do and what you add to our unit. From gathering at the events, to laughing just before we have to perform a function, to helping place PODS, to coming together to celebrate the life of a fallen Marine. That is what we are about.

I look forward to another year with my fellow brothers and sisters, and I hope I may share in a part of their lives. We have great times together and we may rib one another. But when you respond to the call for help and you respond just because you know we need help, it makes us just that much better.

We make 1340. We help it grow. Next year let's help make it great.
Semper Fi! Brothers and Sisters. Semper Fi!

Dan Cadena

Junior-Vice Commandant





MCL1340 Community Information



Future Members

of MCL1340 are welcome to come to our monthly meetings (4th Tue. Of the month) at the Santa Maria Veteran's Building @ 1830

Contact S. Lopez @ romanrae@comcast.net

MCL1340 Coins are still for Sale for \$10



2017 Coins are In Stock!



MCL1340 Memorabilia

MCL1340 now has Aluminum signs for sale (\$35). Great for any bar area. Contact MCL1340 member Gerry Corona to order yours today!

Next year's MCL1340 Marine Corps Ball will be November 3 (Saturday) 2018
Mark your Calendar!



Join Today!

Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of the Month at the Santa Maria Veteran's Building



MCL Uniforms & Gear

Get your uniforms and gear from Armando Moreno or Herman Stubblefield

M-1 Rifle Detail

MCL1340 hopes to serve at ceremonial and burial events for Marine services and veteran events. If you are interested in supporting this honor guard, contact:

John Ready or Nathaniel Taylor



VetSuccess

Veterans needing assistance in obtaining employment can go to the Department of Veterans Affairs VetSuccess at work website located at:

http://vetsuccess.gov/vetsuccess_at_work

or

veteran-jobs.military.com



VA Outpatient Clinics

Santa Maria
Clinic
M-F 8am -4:30pm
1550 E. Main St.,
Santa Maria
CA 93454

San Luis Obispo
Clinic
M-F 8am - 4:30pm
1288 Morro St.,
Suite #200
San Luis Obispo
CA 93401



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www.mcl1340.org

Veteran Service Officer Information

Information regarding Agent Orange and its affects on the service member:
www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/

To obtain a free copy of your DD214, go to this certified online site:
www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/index.html

Medal of Honor recipient, Dakota Meyer has endorsed the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation: www.dakotameyer.com/

Members wishing to donate to various organizations can check their validity at:
www.charitynavigator.org/

Women Veteran's wanting to know more about their options in healthcare and benefits can obtain information by going to: www.publichealth.va.gov/womenshealth/

Expanded employment protection for wounded warriors and disabled veterans:
warriorcare.dodlive.mil/2012/03/07/recent-amendment-expands-employment-protection-for-wounded-warriors-disabled-veterans/

Gulf War Vets with undiagnosed illnesses have five more years to qualify for disability compensation: www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2239

The VA telephone hotline to provide emergency support and resources to homeless veterans: 1-877-4AID VET: www.nepva.org/files/VA%20Announces%20New%20Hotline.pdf

Transition your skills to the civilian workforce: www.dot.gov/veterantransportationcareers/

Military Exposure Information: www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/



MCL1340 SUPPORTS



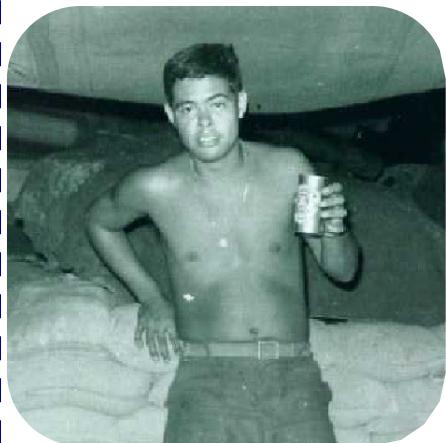
S.L.O. VETCENTER
S.M. VA CLINIC



★ *Welcome Home Military Heroes*

*Donations & Support made by MCL1340 either in monetary, voluntary or other means

FROM THE PAYMASTER'S DESK



Hello to all and hoping that everyone that attended our Marine Corps Ball celebration had a great time and plans to return next year. The Detachment is blessed to have someone like our very own Sally Edwards, den mother supreme, to head up this joyous event. The hard work, the preparation, and the presentation made for another wonderful celebration and so we all tip our hats to her. We made money on our raffle gifts and this allowed us to walk away after all the bills were paid with a nice surplus.

I would like to Thank the Board, the Color Guard, and all the worker bees that helped set up in a very short time prior to our event. We had a wonderful Guest of Honor, Capt Rich Horner, and he deserves our respect for his service to the Marine Corps and to the country, in a time of a very unpopular war.

Our bills have been paid and we are currently enjoying a very nice healthy balance in our account. I have been the Paymaster for some time, since our Detachment received it's charter, and I have seen our balances go up and down. In order to protect and for us, as a group, to be able to make as many donations to the different entities that come before us. I will be presenting to the new Board a budget in January that will ask for limits for donations for the year (\$1,500) and limits on any specific requests not to exceed \$500.00. If the Board is in agreement, then, I will ask that Detachment members for their vote. This year was a banner year in which, as a result of Sonny providing a shotgun for raffle and Rich Horner selling over 70 tickets, we cleared over \$5,000.00. So, again, we have to protect our hard earned balances for the future.

We are finishing the year with Toys 4 Tots, a parade, and a Detachment dinner. Take pictures, and hope to see everyone again at the next meeting.

My continued Thanks to Sonny for everything he does to liven up our meetings, He never asks for anything for himself and is truly a "giver" in the purest sense.

That's all the rumblings from the Paymaster. See me at anytime to see our bank statements for the last four years, it's your money.

Semper Fidelis and Merry Christmas to all.

PS Continue to pray for all our men and women in uniform throughout the world.

Semper Fidelis,

Armando Moreno





VETERAN CONTACT INFORMATION

U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs:	www.va.gov	800.827.1000
VA Health Care Benefits:	www.va.gov/health/aca	877.222.8387
California Veterans Benefits Office:		916.364.6500
Santa Maria VA Clinic		805.354.6000
San Luis Obispo VA Clinic		805.543.1233
Suicide Prevention Hotline		800.273.8255
Call center for Homeless Veterans		877.424.3838
Veteran/Military Business Association	www.vamboa.org	
California Dept of Veterans Affairs:	www.calvet.ca.gov	
TriWest Healthcare Alliance (TRICARE)	www.triwest.com	
Veterans and Families	www.veteransandfamilies.org	
California ESGR	www.caesgr.org/	
Vietnam Veterans of America	www.vva982.org	
California League	www.mclcal.org	
Marine Corps League 1340	www.mcl1340.org	
National Resource Directory	www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov	
Women Marines Assoc. CA-11	www.centralcoastwomenmarines.com	
Suicide Prevention Coordinator	Jan.Capaccioli@va.gov	805.354.6095
VA Caregiver Support	www.caregiver.va.gov/	855.260.3274
National Burial information		866.826.3628
MCL1340 VSO Liaison, Jose Alvarez	javar73@calpoly.edu	



Follow us on
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@ MCL1340



PRODUCTIVE NOVEMBER MEETING

M. Valencia donated two M1 Rifles for our Color Guard. We thank you and Semper Fidelis!



Michael Stadnick was inducted into the MCL1340 as an Honorary Member. His selfless dedication in providing funeral services to fallen members is a great tribute to our Veterans.



Thanks to our Advertisers & Sponsors



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www.jpdesignsfloral.com

Joe Guggia AIFD
Designer/Consultant
joe.jpdesigns@gmail.com

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Welcome Home



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Cheryl@welcomemilitaryheroes.org

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than that of Returning
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9/11

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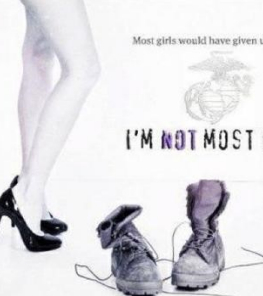


1.855.VA.WOMEN
**WOMEN VETERANS
CALL CENTER**

★ The Women Veterans Call Center is your guide to VA.

Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 10:00 pm ET
Saturday: 8:00 am - 6:30 pm ET
Phone: 1.855.829.6636
Anonymous Chat at www.womenshealth.va.gov

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



Most girls would have given up by now...

**Women Marines
Association CA-11**

I'M NOT MOST GIRLS. Looking for a few good women who have served.

Contact:
usmcrfemale@yahoo.com



**Veterans
Crisis Line**
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

STAND BY THEM

Confidential help for
Veterans and their families

..... Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to 838255

Central Coast Chapter
982




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cccvcvchapter982@gmail.com www.vva982.org

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mannydetail@yahoo.com



Mamuel's 56' Chevy

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Information for Military Veterans Enrolling into Allan Hancock College

WWW.HANCOCKCOLLEGE.EDU

Things to do to enroll at Allan Hancock College

- Obtain a copy of your Military DD214 form
- Make appointment to see AHC School Counselor
- Complete on-line admission application located at: www.hancockcollege.edu
- Establish a "my hancock" student portal ID to receive AHC information/emails
- Talk to other student military veterans to gather information on attending Allan Hancock College
- Complete the START assessment test to determine your Math & English skill level (test does not determine admission)
- Review your Academic Major with AHC School Counselor and ensure your military benefits will cover the course
- Meet with Financial Aid representative to ensure your military education benefits are available for use
- Select your Major, then select your classes
- Pay for your classes within 4 business days (ensure your military education benefits will be available or you will have to pay out of pocket)
- Once your classes are authorized and paid for, purchase your class books & attend your classes
- Review your course major/transfer plan with your counselor periodically

Student Veterans of America - Allan Hancock College

meets every Month in Student Center Room G106A

- *Officers will help Veteran Students succeed*
- *We want to offer everything we can for you to succeed*

Allan Hancock College

Veronica West

Veterans Club Advisor

805. 922-6966 ext.3295

Fax 805.346.7158

veronica.west@hancockcollege.edu

Dr.

<http://www.hancockcollege.edu/veterans/index.php>

Challenge Coin Rules

Rules

Note: A "Coin Check" consists of a Challenge and a Response. The challenge is initiated by drawing your coin, holding it in the air by whatever means possible and state, scream, shout or otherwise verbally acknowledge that you are initiating a coin check. Another, but less vocal method is to firmly place it on the bar, table, or floor (this should produce an audible noise which can be easily heard by those being challenged, but try not to leave a permanent imprint.) If you accidentally drop your coin and it makes an audible sound upon impact, then you have just "accidentally" a coin check. (This is called paying the price for improper care of your coin.)

The response consists of all those persons being challenged drawing their coin in a like manner. If you are challenged and are unable to properly respond, you must buy a round of drinks for the challenger and the group being challenged. If everyone being challenged responds in the correct manner, the challenger must buy a round of drinks for all those people they challenged. Failure to buy a round of drinks is a despicable crime and will require that you turn-in your Coin to the issuing agency.

When-Where

Coin checks are permitted, ANY TIME, ANY PLACE. They apply to those clothed or unclothed. At the time of the challenge you are permitted one step and an arms reach to locate your coin.



2017 Birthday Message

To: All Members of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania Inc.
From: Brian Natali, Commandant, Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania Inc.
Subject: Birthday Message
Date: 28 October 2017

Members;

It is the time of year that we pause to celebrate the history of the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League. On 10 November 2017 we will celebrate the 242 birthday of our beloved Corps. As we all take time to gather with our Marine family to reflect on the history and traditions of the Marine Corps.

Marines continue to be stationed worldwide. We serve in “every clime and place that we can take a gun”. The Marines are a force in readiness and responds at a moment’s notice to defend the freedoms of our great nation. Marines serve both in garrisons, in a multitude of combat theaters and on the political stage guarding the embassies around the world. There is no greater pride than earning the title “United States Marine” and contributing to the success of the Marine Corps Mission. Now that our tours have ended on active duty we take up the call to hold down the home front and make sure that our warriors have a safe place to come home to. Our new mission is to make sure that our returning Marines have all the help and support they need to transition back to civilian life when they return from deployments and leave the service for various reasons. Let no Marine be left behind!

As we take time to remember the Historical heroes of the Marine Corps such as Chesty Puller, Dan Dailey, General John LeJeune, and Capt. Samuel Nicholas. I also ask you to remember those Marines that are creating the Marine Corps history every day. Our new heroes are those that are in their 20’s and 30’s. They are creating Marine Corps with their actions every day.

Happy 242st Birthday Marines! May the traditions of the Corps remain and be perpetuated by the members of the Marine Corps League.

Semper Fidelis

MARINE BIRTHDAY BALL 2017



The photos from the Marine Ball or on-line:

www.bobgrasaphotography.com

Find MBB2017 under the Client Access menu;

Password: MBB2017



FROM THE JUDGE ADVOCATE

National Bylaws, Ship's Store, Modd, Documents, Contact; what is all this? This is just a small sample of the information that can be accessed at the National Headquarters website at mclnational.com. No, I am not going to discuss bylaws. This article is going to address what is available for the league members that have questions pertaining to protocol, filing grievances, proper uniforms, uniform items, forms, administrative procedures, etc. Any questions you may have can be answered by simply visiting the website, and reading what is there.

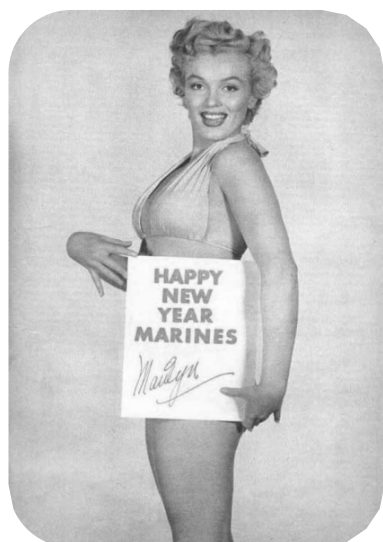
There is contact information for the National Executive Board, messages from the National officers, information concerning the National Convention, basically what is going on in the league, along with links to various individuals and organizations.

Should you be on the road, and would like to visit a local detachment in the area you are in, there is a locator that will tell you the detachment nearest the location you are at. There are members who visit detachments when they are on the road. It's a great way to meet other Marines. If you are curious as to what League items are available, the ships store is your answer.

The answers to most of the questions you may have can be found at the website. Visit it and you will see that we are part of a bigger organization. If you want to know what is going on in the Department of California, visit mcl-cal.org.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact or email me. See you at our next General Membership meeting. Semper Fidelis.

Dave Rendek, Judge Advocate



Marine Corps League



Uniforms and Accessories for Sale



- ♦ Garrison Covers with EGA device: **\$38.00**
- ♦ Embroidered Red Polo Shirts: **\$25.00**
- ♦ Blue baseball cover: **\$10.00**
- ♦ Engraved Nametag: **\$10.00**
- ♦ Green MCL1340 T-Shirt: **\$10.00**
- ♦ MCL1340 Supporter T-Shirts: **\$15.00**

Mailing & Email Address:

Coastal Valleys Detachment 1340 Marine Corps League
P.O. Box 2325

Orcutt, CA 93457-2325

Point of Contact: **Armando Moreno**



Thank you goes to all the MCL1340 members that support the Veteran's Court in Santa Barbara County. If you wish to assist in this project, please contact :
Cary Gray
colonelcarygray@gmail.com

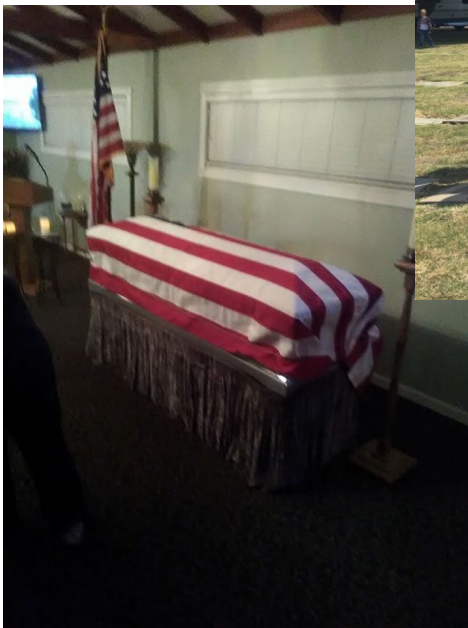
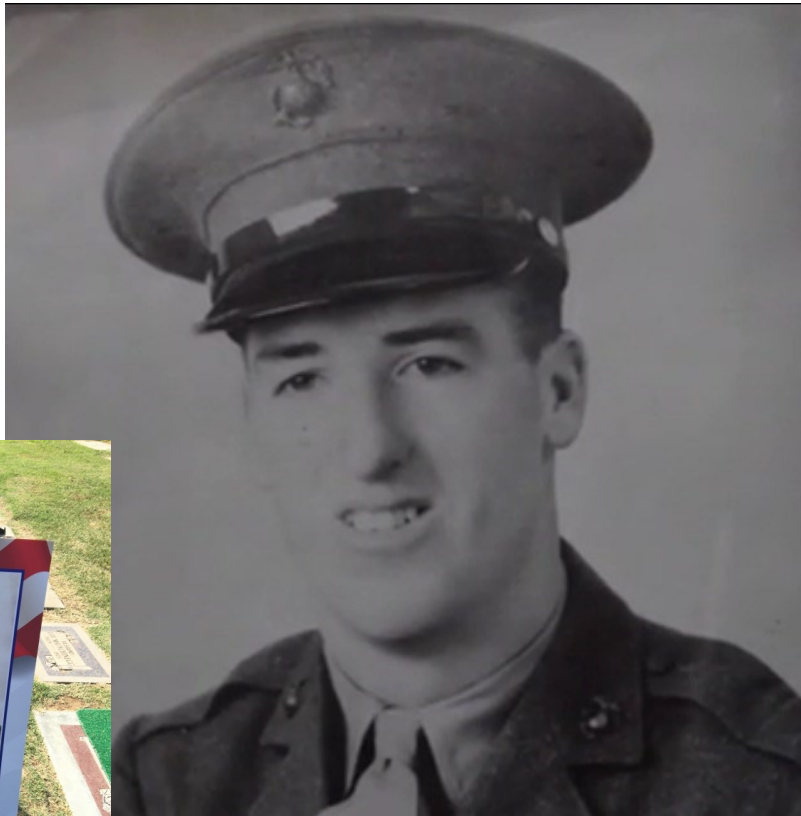


Oh say can you see the flag from the freeway? Not in Orcutt, but a law could change that

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/opinion/editorials/article168996872.html>



Pfc. Murray, of Oceano, died during a battle in the Tarawa Atoll and was buried on the island. In recent years, according to the Department of Defense, his remains were recovered during an archaeological mission and positively identified thanks to laboratory testing. MCL1340 was on hand to help bring a Brother home.



<http://www.ksby.com/story/36169630/oceano-marine-killed-in-wwii-finally-laid-to-rest-on-the-central-coast>





Greeting Volunteers

I have listed the upcoming events below. Volunteers, Poolees, Marines old/young veterans and Marines in uniform are needed at all events. We have events in Santa Maria and Santa Barbara if your interested in those let me know. Events missing dates will be updated when I get them. Any event not listed I will list them as they come up.

Dec 2 - Saturday Chasing Santa at River Park Marine in uniform/Poolee at stations 8am-12pm

Dec 2 - Saturday BASI Lompoc Airport Display "Marine Challenge" and recruit info 9am-3pm

Dec ?-? - TOYS R US weekend collecting toys/donations in front of store Santa Maria

Dec ? - Pool Tournament Santa Maria Lounge, (5th year)

Dec 7-9 - Basketball Tournament Santa Maria Allen Hancock Lady Bulldogs

Dec ? - Chumash Toys for Tots concert color guard Marines in uniform 5pm

Dec ? - Drive-in Diner Santa Maria "Car show" collecting toys drop off 6pm

Dec 10 - Sunday Whistle Stop motorcycle ride starts 8am-5pm

Dec 13-15- Collecting and sorting toys for bagging Lompoc

Dec 16 - Saturday Toy distribution for families (Marines in uniform with Santa) 9am-12pm Volunteer security will be needed.

Dec 18-21 - Collecting and sorting toys for bagging in Santa Maria

Dec 22 - Friday Toy distribution for Santa Maria Armory



SUICIDE PREVENTION
IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF

**EVERY
MARINE**



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AS A TEAM

WE
FIGHT
AS A TEAM



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YOU'RE NEVER ALONE OUT THERE

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MARINE
& Family

 www.usmc-mccs.org



Marine Corps League



SCUTTLEBUTT ADVERTISEMENT APPLICATION

MCL1340 is proud to announce that we are offering individuals and businesses the opportunity to advertise in the monthly (digital) issues of ScuttleButt. Reaching Marine Corps League members, including family, associates and local businesses, your advertising information can be seen ten months out of the year for the low price of \$25.00. We also offer full-page (event) advertisement in 3 month increments (\$30). You can pay to place as many different businesses & organizations you represent as you wish on the ScuttleButt issue (10 issues). When ready, just print and fill out this form, enclose your business card you wish published and send a check to the following address. We thank you for your support.

☐

Yes! I have enclosed my 2" x 3.5" inch business card and a check for \$25.00 so that I can be advertised in the ScuttleButt for 2016!

- Attach Business card here -



ScuttleButt Advertisement mailing address:

Coastal Valleys Detachment 1340 Marine Corps League
P.O. Box 2325
Orcutt, CA 93457-2325

SCUTTLEBUTT

EDITORIAL

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MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced identifications of remains and burial updates of 26 American servicemen who had been missing in action from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

-- **Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. Donald S. Spayd**, 19, of Los Angeles, whose identification was previously announced, was buried Sept. 13 in Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington, D.C. Spayd was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. On Nov. 20, 1943, Spayd's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll against fierce Japanese resistance. Spayd was killed on Nov. 20, 1943.

-- **Navy Fireman 1st Class Charles R. Casto**, 20, of East Liverpool, Ohio, whose identification was previously announced, was buried Sept. 14 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. Casto was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Casto was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

-- **Marine Pfc. Roland E. Schaede**, 19, of Maywood, Ill., whose identification was previously announced, was buried Sept. 14 in Elgin, Illinois. Schaede was assigned to Company M, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. Schaede's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll on Nov. 20, 1943, against stiff Japanese resistance. Schaede was killed on the first day of the battle.

-- **Marine Corps Cpl. Raymond C. Snapp**, 24, of Bonita, Texas, whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Sept. 15 in Keithville, La. Snapp was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. Snapp's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll on Nov. 20, 1943, against stiff Japanese resistance. Snapp was killed on the first day of the battle.

-- **Army Cpl. Clarence R. Skates**, 19, of Los Angeles, whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Sept. 15 in Riverside, Calif. Skates was assigned to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. Positioned between the towns of Kunu-ri and Sunchon, Skates' regiment was attacked by Chinese forces and suffered many casualties. Skates was reported missing in action on Nov. 30, 1950. At the end of the war, during "Operation Big Switch," where all remaining prisoners of war were returned, the former prisoners were interviewed. One reported hearing that Skates died while marching to POW Camp 5, but he was unable to provide further information. Based on this information, Skates was declared deceased as of Feb. 5, 1954.

-- **Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. Alberic M. Blanchette**, 19, of Caribou, Maine, whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Sept. 18 in his hometown. Blanchette was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division. Blanchette's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll on Nov. 20, 1943, against stiff Japanese resistance. Blanchette was killed on the first day of the battle.

-- **Navy Fireman 1st Class Charles R. Ogle** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Ogle was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

-- **Navy Fireman 1st Class Gerald H. Pirtle** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Pirtle was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

-- **Navy Seaman 1st Class John E. Savidge** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Savidge was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.



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- **Navy Seaman 2nd Class Frank Wood** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Wood was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.
- **Navy Reserve Chief Water Tender Paul R. Wright** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Wright was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.
- **Army Pfc. Billy R. Ball** was a member of Headquarters Detachment Philippines Department, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands on Dec. 8, 1941. After months of intense fighting, Corregidor fell and American forces surrendered on May 6, 1942. Ball was one of the thousands of U.S. and Filipino service members taken prisoner and eventually moved to Cabanatuan POW camp. More than 2,500 POWs perished in this camp during the remaining years of the war. According to prisoner records, Ball died on Sept. 28, 1942, and was buried along with fellow prisoners in the local Cabanatuan camp cemetery. Interment services are pending.
- **Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Manuel Menendez** was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Division. Menendez's unit was one of those tasked with securing the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll. Encountering fierce resistance by the Japanese, almost 1,000 Marines and sailors were killed and another 1,000 were wounded in the battle. Menendez was killed on the first day of the battle, Nov. 20, 1943. Interment services are pending.
- **Marine Corps Pvt. George F. Patrick** was a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division. Patrick's unit was one of those tasked with securing the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll. Encountering fierce resistance by the Japanese, almost 1,000 Marines and sailors were killed and another 1,000 were wounded in the battle. Patrick was killed on the first day of the battle, Nov. 20, 1943. Interment services are pending.
- **Marine Corps Pfc. Harold V. Thomas** was a member of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division. Thomas's unit was one of those tasked with securing the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll. Encountering fierce resistance by the Japanese, almost 1,000 Marines and sailors were killed and another 1,000 were wounded in the battle. Thomas was killed on the first day of the battle, Nov. 20, 1943. Interment services are pending.
- **Marine Corps Sgt. William D. Ball** was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force. Ball's unit was one of those tasked with securing the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll. Encountering fierce resistance by the Japanese, almost 1,000 Marines and sailors were killed and another 1,000 were wounded in the battle. Ball was wounded on the first day of battle, Nov. 20, 1943, and was identified for evacuation to the USS J. Franklin Bell for treatment. Ball never made it to the ship and his status was adjusted from wounded in action to missing in action as of Nov. 21, 1943. Interment services are pending.
- **Marine Corps Reserve Assistant Cook Frank L. Masoni** was a member of Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Division. Masoni's unit was one of those tasked with securing the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll. Encountering fierce resistance by the Japanese, almost 1,000 Marines and sailors were killed and another 1,000 were wounded in the battle. Cook was killed on the second day of the battle, Nov. 21, 1943. Interment services are pending.
- **Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Donald E. Underwood** was a member of the 38th Bombardment Squadron, (Heavy), 30th Bombardment Group. On Jan. 21, 1944, Underwood's B-24J Liberator was unable to gain altitude and crashed into the water shortly after taking off from Hawkins Field, Helen Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands. All 10 members onboard, including Underwood, were killed. Interment services are pending.



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-- **Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Roy F. Davis** was a member of the 13th Bombardment Squadron, 3rd Bombardment Group. On March 12, 1944, Davis and another crew member were aboard an A-20G Havoc bombing enemy targets on New Guinea. They failed to return to base after the attack. Interment services are pending.

-- **Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Clarence L. Dragoo** was a member 716th Bomber Squadron, 449th Bombardment Group. On Feb. 28, 1945, Dragoo and ten other B-24J Liberator aircrew took off from Grottaglie Army Air Base, Italy, as part of a mission to target the Isarc-Albes railroad bridge in northern Italy, which was part of Brennan Route, used by Germans to move personnel and equipment into and out of Italy. After the bombing run, the other aircraft moved toward the rally point and witnessed one aircraft skim the mountain tops with at least two damaged engines. The plane was last seen near Lake Wiezen in Austria and no parachutes were reported exiting the aircraft. Based on this information, Dragoo was reported missing in action.

-- **Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Thomas M. McGraw** was a member 716th Bomber Squadron, 449th Bombardment Group. On Feb. 28, 1945, McGraw and ten other B-24J Liberator aircrew took off from Grottaglie Army Air Base, Italy, as part of a mission to target the Isarc-Albes railroad bridge in northern Italy, which was part of Brennan Route, used by Germans to move personnel and equipment into and out of Italy. After the bombing run, the other aircraft moved toward the rally point and witnessed one aircraft skim the mountain tops with at least two damaged engines. The plane was last seen near Lake Wiezen in Austria and no parachutes were reported exiting the aircraft. Based on this information, McGraw was reported missing in action.

-- **Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Robert L. Mains** was a member of the 714th Bombardment Squadron, 448th Bombardment Group, 2nd Bombardment Division. On April 4, 1945, Mains, along with more than 400 other bombers, took off to attack airbases at Parchim, Perleberg and Wesendorf, Germany, as part of an Allied attempt to cripple what was left of the German air force. Mains' aircraft, which held ten airmen, was attacked by enemy fighter planes in the vicinity of Hamburg. Interment services are pending.

-- **Army Pfc. James J. Leonard** was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. In the early hours of July 20, 1950, Leonard's regiment arrived east of Yongdong, South Korea, and began preparing to assume the defense of the city. North Korean forces began attacking their positions on July 23 and took control of Yongdong by July 25. Leonard was reported as killed in action on July 25, 1950. Interment services are pending.

-- **Army Sgt. 1st Class Elmore B. Goodwin** was a member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. In late November 1950, Goodwin's unit engaged in combat operations against Chinese forces in the vicinity of Anju, North Korea. Goodwin was reported missing in action on Nov. 27, 1950. When no information regarding Goodwin was reported by returning American POWs, the U.S. Army declared him deceased as of Dec. 31, 1953. Interment services are pending.

-- **Navy Capt. James R. Bauder** was a member of Fighter Squadron Twenty One, USS Coral. On Sept. 21, 1966, Bauder flew his F-4B on a night reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam. During the mission, his wingman reported losing contact with Bauder and his plane did not return to the ship. An extensive search was conducted with negative results. Based on this information, Bauder was declared missing in action. Interment services are pending.



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-- **Army Air Forces 1st Lt. George W. Betchley**, 20, of Yonkers, N.Y., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Oct. 14 in Clearwater, Fla. Betchley was a member of the 429th Bombardment Squadron, 2nd Bombardment Group, 15th Air Force. On March 22, 1945, Betchley served as navigator on a B-17G Flying Fortress, carrying a crew of 10 on a bombing mission targeting the Ruhland oil refinery near Schwarzhede, Germany. After two of its engines and the left wing were reportedly damaged by German fighters and anti-aircraft fire, the plane crashed in southwest Poland. Eight crewmembers, including Betchley, were not recovered following the crash. Betchley was declared missing in action as of March 22, 1945, but his status was later amended to killed in action.

-- **Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Richard M. Horwitz**, 22, of Brookline, Mass., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Oct. 15 in West Roxbury, Mass. Horwitz was a member of the 716th Bomber Squadron, 449th Bombardment Group. On Feb. 28, 1945, Horwitz and 10 other airmen departed Grottaglie Army Air Base, Italy, in a B-24J Liberator aircraft for a combat mission targeting Isarc-Albes railroad bridge in northern Italy, which was part of Brennan Route, used by Germans to move personnel and equipment out of Italy. After the bombing run, Horwitz's aircraft was reported to have damaged at least two engines after skimming the mountain tops near Lake Wiezen, Austria, on the way to the rally point. No parachutes were reported and Horwitz was reported as missing in action.

-- **Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Don O. Neher**, 28, of Kansas City, Mo., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Oct. 16 in Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington, D.C. Neher was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Neher was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

-- **Navy Seaman 2nd Class Harold L. Head** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Head was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending. Read about Head.

-- **Marine Corps Cpl. Walter G. Critchley**, 24, of Norwich, N.Y., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Oct. 18 in Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington, D.C. Critchley was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. On Nov. 20, 1943, Critchley's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll against fierce Japanese resistance. Critchley was killed on the first day of the battle.

-- **Navy Reserve Pharmacist's Mate 2nd Class Thomas J. Murphy** was assigned to Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Fleet Marine Force. On Nov. 20, 1943, Murphy's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll against stiff Japanese resistance. Murphy was killed on the first day of the battle, one of approximately 1,000 Marines and sailors killed in the intense fighting. Interment services are pending.

-- **Army Sgt. Kermit J. Lejeune** was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. In late November 1950, his unit engaged with Chinese forces in the vicinity of Unsan County, North Pyongan County, North Korea. Lejeune was reported missing in action on Nov. 28, 1950. Lejeune was later reported to have been captured and died in a North Korean POW camp in early 1951. Interment services are pending.



U.S. Army/U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Bryan Black, 35, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson, 39, and Staff Sgt. Dustin Wright, 29, and Sgt. La David Johnson, 25, died from wounds sustained during an ambush Oct. 4, 2017, in Niger. All three Soldiers were assigned to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Fort Bragg.



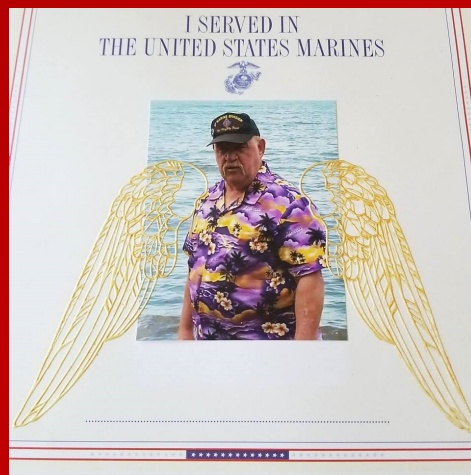
The U.S. Department of Defense announced that Staff Sgt. Aaron R. Butler, 27, of Monticello, Utah, died Aug. 16 in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, of injuries suffered from an improvised explosive device (IED) while conducting combat operations in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.



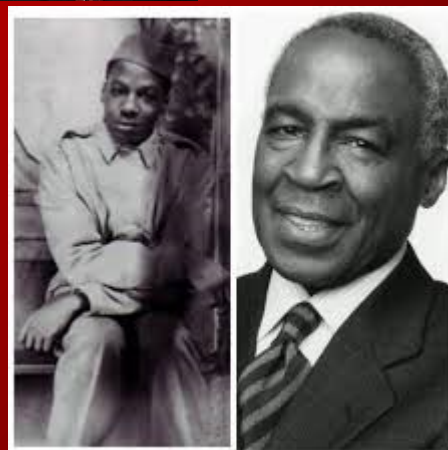
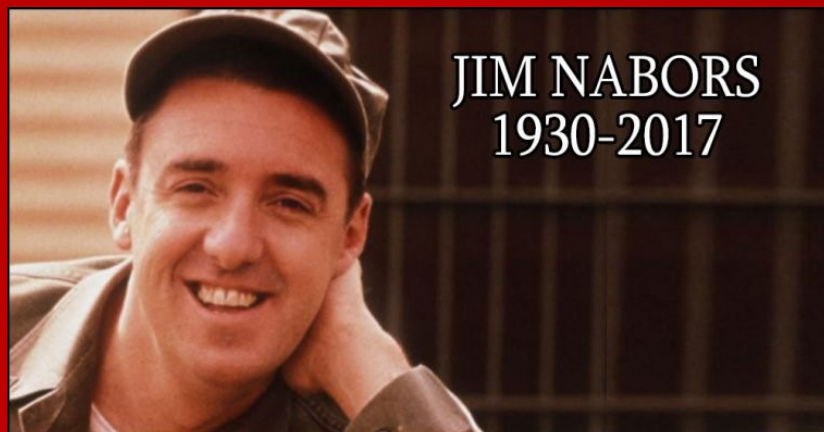
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Membership Form

Marine Corps League Application for Membership

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Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes () No () If yes is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

☐ **I hereby apply for membership in the Marine Corps League Detachment 1340 and enclose \$40 for one year's membership***

I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps, on active duty, for not less than ninety (90) days* or have served or am currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points or that I have served or am currently serving as a U. S. Navy Corpsman who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon authorized for FMF Corpsmen. If discharged, I am in receipt of an honorable discharge or DD 214. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. "Honorable service" will be defined by the last DD-214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received. General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable. I hereby authorize the National Executive Director, Marine Corps League to obtain a copy of my latest DD-214 from the National Personnel Records Center if deemed necessary to verify my eligibility for regular membership in the Marine Corps League. (*Korean War Era Marines see National Bylaws, Article 6, Section 600)

(Sponsor where applicable)

Applicant's Signature

Upon completion of application, turn into your detachment sponsor with required payment.

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