



2018 MCL National Convention  
Buffalo, NY  
13-16 August 2018

### **Reminder**

The MCL National Library website contains documents supporting the presentations made during the week at the 2018 MCL National Convention. The documents are located under the Convention and Legislative tabs at <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/> .

### **Notes**

General notes I made while at the 2018 National Convention.

### **13 August 2018**

Chapel of the Four Chaplains Guidelines and Rules were discussed.

**The Legion of Honor Award Program** which recognizes ordinary people who do extraordinary things. To honor the legacy of the Four Chaplains, this program has recognized selfless service in many, many forms throughout our

communities, schools, veteran service organizations and neighborhoods. This programs recognizes the many veterans who are performing selfless acts for many of our wounded and disabled veterans. We are averaging over 400 Legion of Honor inductees internationally on an annual basis. For additional information: <http://www.fourchaplains.org/about-the-chapel/>

Members of the MCL are encouraged to submit the names of those members that are worthy of this outstanding award.

The National Elected Officers and Department Reports are posted on the MCL Library, Commandant Wendell Webb's Report will be posted shortly.

Audit vs Chapter 9 [https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/990-Process-Marine-Corps-League\\_Rev-D.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/990-Process-Marine-Corps-League_Rev-D.pdf)

## Death Notices

Detachments need to ensure that the Death Notice is accurately and completely filled out. Additionally, the completed notice is to be sent to their Department Chaplain and to MCL National. The Death Notice may be completed online and copies printed out for distribution. <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Notice-of-Death.pdf>

VAVS Report discussed. [https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/VAVS-Miller\\_Report-FY18.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/VAVS-Miller_Report-FY18.pdf)

Toys For Tots Report was given by Craig Reeling. The report is to be posted to the MCL National Library.

Recruitment Award Ribbon – Both SVC Tobin and JVC Baker reminded members that the recruitment award is received for recruiting five or more new members in a year. The Detachment Commandant must submit the request for the award.

[https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Recruitment-Form\\_Rev-May-2018.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Recruitment-Form_Rev-May-2018.pdf)

JA Griffin requested that documents sent to him are to be sent to his home address. Additionally, Detachments are to verify all DD 214's, applications for membership. Department Bylaws need to be reviewed and updated if necessary. After updating Department Bylaws they are to be sent to JA Griffin.

## **14 August 2018**

COO Borka reported on GuideStar for non-profits – The Marine Corps League National Headquarters is now Platinum rated by GuideStar. A good social media link for all Departments and Detachments is LinkedIn. The United States Marine Corps is aggressively pursuing trademark violations. Some examples that

require approval from Headquarters Marine Corps are for the use of the EGA, USMC, Marine Corps, Semper Fi, Semper Fidelis, and Oorah. The Marine Corps is also looking at motor vehicle tags that are used by a number of states for Marine veterans that have not been approved by HQ USMC. For additional: [https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/COO-Borka\\_Report-FY18.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/COO-Borka_Report-FY18.pdf)

Life Member Audits are to be submitted in a timely manner.

The Marine Corps League Budget for 2019 was discussed and approved by the membership.

The PLM Fund which is controlled by Morgan Stanley was discussed.

The Legislative Committee report was given and may reviewed further at <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/legislation/> .

HR 5515- Defense Authorization Act - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5515/text> will need local support to pass.

HR 6157 – Appropriations Act - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6157>

Major General Fields (Ret) spoke about the Vietnam War Commemoration <https://www.vietnamwar50th.com/> .

Wounded Warrior Family Support presentation was made supporting the Dunham House Combat Wounded Care Residence which is named for Medal of Honor Awardee Corporal Jason L. Dunham, United States Marine Corps. Posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for actions while serving with 3rd Battalion 7th Marines during the Iraq War.

### Dunham House

“To provide long term care for combat wounded veterans with spinal cord and/or moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries in order for them to enjoy a high quality of life and quality care.”

<https://dunhamhouse.org/>

Bylaws and AP Proposed – NJVC Baker spoke in detail about the forthcoming changes to the Bylaws structure and Administrative Procedures updating. Administrative Procedure changes were voted on and approved. These will need to be reviewed by all in the future once completed documents are posted to the MCL National Library.

NJA Griffin spoke about the proposed Bylaws changes.

Proposed Bylaw changes Rejected and Approved were sent out earlier to Mideast Division.

This updating may require Bylaws to be updated at all levels once the completed document is posted on the MCL National Library.

Commandant Council was led by National SVC Tobin.

SVC Tobin encouraged all members to use the MCL National Library and the fillable forms. Just remember to download, rename, fill, save, print and distribute hard copies. All completed forms need to be readable.

Department Rosters- Suggestion has been made to establish a new membership database, this should help with a more accurate roster for all Departments. Deceased members are not currently able to be removed from the rosters. National is working on 21<sup>st</sup> Century solutions and technology for our recordkeeping. It will take a while. Marines at Large will be added to the Rosters sent to Departments and Detachments.

SVC Tobin encourages all members to move through the various Elected and Appointed Officers positions available in the Departments and Detachment. Do not stay over the assigned turn limits and to give other members at chance to serve in the various positions. Don't recycle.

Veteran Service Officers- Veterans Administration - You must be a regular member of the MCL and have a letter of recommendation from your Department Commandant. You must complete two training sessions and complete all required VA forms. Once the total completed package is sent to the VA

they control the process including completion of request timelines.

Guidelines are set down by the VA.

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/vso/>

FOCUS –The FOCUS Marines Foundation was created in 2010 by Marines who served in the Corps years ago. Following active service they lived productive and rewarding lives. These Marines, many of whom saw combat in Vietnam, understood firsthand the issues of transitioning from military to civilian lives and were determined to help this new generation of Marines and veterans who served during the war on terror.

<https://focusmarines.org/fmf-in-the-news/focus-program-in-semperfi-magazine/>

MD Fallen Marines – VetFriends- Helping U.S. Military Veterans reconnect. Information was presented by Craig Reeling, Department of Maryland.

[https://www.vetfriends.com/memorial/mem\\_alphab.cfm?war\\_id=16&page\\_id=1&states\\_id=22](https://www.vetfriends.com/memorial/mem_alphab.cfm?war_id=16&page_id=1&states_id=22)

## **16 August 2018**

Delegates were present from the following Mideast Division Departments: DC Marines, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

Vets4Warrior program was discussed. They provide sustained, confidential peer support to any veteran, service member, family member, or caregiver whenever they have an issue, wherever they are in the world. They help before challenges turn into crises. <https://www.vets4warriors.com/>

NJVC Recruitment Awards were presented by NJVC Griffin. Awards were presented for 5 or more new members recruited during the year. Commandants need to complete the proper form and submit. [https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Recruitment-Form\\_Rev-May-2018.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Recruitment-Form_Rev-May-2018.pdf)

Americanism Award- need to follow and complete instructions. <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Americanism-Criteria2018-National-Award.pdf>

Scholarship Awards – need to follow and complete all instructions. (Will be updated for 2019)

[https://www.mclnational.org/uploads/1/0/3/1/103183322/2018\\_natl\\_mcl\\_scholarship\\_application\\_checklist\\_1.pdf](https://www.mclnational.org/uploads/1/0/3/1/103183322/2018_natl_mcl_scholarship_application_checklist_1.pdf)

Newsletter Awards – Request was made for more submissions from Departments and Detachments.



<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Newsletter-Info-Sheet-2018.pdf>

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Newsletter-Judging-Criteria-Edited-for-2018-Competition.pdf>

Uniform Committee – Advised that they will check all photos submitted to Semper Fi Magazine to ensure proper uniforms are being displayed in all photos posted in the magazine.

A new MCL Crest patch for the Casual Red Blazer has been made and will be on sale at the MCL Store shortly for purchase.

Reminder: the MOY Awards may now be worn with the Undress Uniform – Approved at the 2018 National Convention.

Reminder: **The Ceremonial Uniform** – Undress with Dress Blue Trousers and is to be worn without ribbons/awards and the Red Detachment MCL Cap is to be worn only while performing ceremonial services.

Tree of Lights <https://www.mclnational.org/national-tree-lighting-ceremony.html>

Youth Physical Fitness

<http://www.usmarinesyouthfoundation.org/>

Training and Mentoring – New training lessons are presently being developed that will replace the present Professional

Development Program [https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Training-and-Mentoring-DeAngelo\\_Report-FY18.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Training-and-Mentoring-DeAngelo_Report-FY18.pdf)

Marine Corps Foundation -  
[https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/MCL-Foundation-Hunt\\_Report-FY18.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/MCL-Foundation-Hunt_Report-FY18.pdf)

Boy Scouts Report – The report has not been posted to the MCL National Library but the report was previously sent to the Mideast Division.

2019 Marine Corps League National Convention will be August 4-10, 2019 in Billings, MT  
<https://www.mclnationalconvention2019.com/>

The proposed 2020 Marine Corps League National Convention received one bid from Charleston, SC for August 6-16, 2020. After much discussion, the membership voted not to accept the bid. A request for a rebid will be sent out. If no further bid is received from the Southeast Division the request for a bid will be sent to the Central Division.

National Marine of the Year Nominations – 15 nomination were received and 5 were rejected due to not being completed properly. Detachments are requested to properly complete and submit all nominations as instructed when completing the Marine of the Year nomination requests.

Funeral Honors - [https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Honor-Guard-Morgan\\_Report-FY18.pdf](https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Honor-Guard-Morgan_Report-FY18.pdf)

Nominations for Marine Corps League National Officers:

Commandant Wendell Webb

Senior Vice Commandant Dennis Tobin

Junior Vice Commandant Johnny Baker

Judge Advocate Warren Griffin

Jr. Past Commandant Richard Gore

All positions were unopposed, one vote was cast confirming election of National Officers.

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/FY19-National-Staff-Roster.pdf>

Semper Fidelis,

Frank Mathers, Adjutant

Mideast Division

10 September 2018