

# Semper Certior

## Official Newsletter of the Jack Maas Detachment 1379 Marine Corps League



**June 2026**

In the April newsletter I incorrectly identified one of our Vietnam Veterans in the group picture. It was actually Jim Brandt and not Richard Spillman. I take full responsibility, and regret the error.

Mike Chmielewski, Newsletter Editor

**Same Team. New Mission.**

### JACK MAAS DETACHMENT 1379 OFFICERS, 2026 – 2027



Robert Icolari  
Commandant



Ernie Bartosh  
Sr. Vice Commandant



Mike Chmielewski  
Jr. Vice Commandant



Ronnie Edwards  
Judge Advocate



Michael Diamond  
Jr. Past Commandant



Steve Hansen  
Adjutant



Virgil Young  
Paymaster



Mike Remington  
Chaplain



Bob Singer  
Sgt. At Arms



Bill Anderson  
Public Affairs



Andy Dorman  
Quartermaster



Sam McDonald  
Quartermaster



Sean O'Gorman  
Web Sergeant

## **DETACHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **June**

- 15 Detachment Officer's Meeting, 18:00; Hope Presbyterian Church.
- 20 Detachment Meeting, 10:00; Moose Lodge.
- 25 STP Dinner, 18:00; Location TBD.
- 27 Stars and Stripes Spectacular, 16-22:00; Spotsylvania Courthouse.

### **July**

- 13 Detachment Officer's Meeting, 18:00; Hope Presbyterian Church.
- 18 Detachment Meeting, 10:00; Moose Lodge. Breakfast, 09:00 before the meeting.
- 23 STP Dinner, 18:00; Location TBD.

### **Breakfast at the VA Health Care Center:**

Several members get together for coffee and/or breakfast at the Canteen in the VA Health Care Center, 10432 Patriot Highway in Spotsylvania every Thursday morning. Feel free to swing by if you'd like to socialize outside of our monthly meetings; folks show up any time after 08:00. Just look for the Vets wearing Marine Corps gear and pull up a chair! Come for the coffee, stay for the Sea Stories...



*L-R: Steve Hansen, "Doc" Holladay, Jim Smith, Andy Dorman, Ronnie Edwards, Ray Conklin, Sam McDonald, and Mike Chmielewski.*



*Andy Dorman and Ronnie Edwards talking with Women Marines Association President Anne Crittenden.*

### **LtCol Roy Elrod USMC (Ret.) Memorial Lunch:**

Here's another opportunity to mingle with other Marines. Join us at 11:00 for lunch on the first Tuesday of each month at the Great American Buffet in Central Park.

### **Field Trips:**

The Detachment is considering trips to visit Chesty Puller's grave site in Saluda VA, and a visit to Tun Tavern in Philadelphia PA. Stay tuned for details as our plans progress!

### **Fred Nats Game:**

The Detachment is planning another get together at the Fred Nats game on Saturday, 5 September. Cost will be approximately \$40 per person, which will include ticket and food (hot dogs, hamburgers, side dishes, iced tea and lemonade). Kevin Brown is coordinating and will provide updates and details.

### **Detachment Picnic:**

The Detachment will hold our annual picnic, catered by Jeremiah Burns, at the Moose Lodge 1655 Picnic Pavilion on Saturday 17 October.

## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE UPCOMING EVENTS**

MCL National Annual Convention, 10-14 August 2026 at the Wyndham Indianapolis Airport Hotel.

## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL RECRUITING AWARD**

Recruiting is the life's blood of any organization, and the League has a special award for MCL members who excel at recruiting new members. Any member that recruits 5 or more new regular members (new associate or honorary members don't count) between 1 July and 30 June is eligible to earn the **National Junior Vice Commandant's Award for Recruiting**. The detachment Paymaster tracks the recruiter for each new member and must submit a document to the MCL National Junior Vice Commandant by 10 July each year if any detachment member is eligible to receive the award.

Since last July 1st, we've sworn in 20 new members and we may have 2 or 3 more at the June meeting. Mike Remington is leading the recruiting pack with his 5th recruit getting sworn in at the May meeting, and Mike says he expects to have another recruit at the June meeting. He's now eligible to receive the National Junior Vice Commandant's Award. Thirteen detachment members have recruited at least 1 new member so far. Keep up the good work, Marines! Our detachment continues to grow by leaps and bounds due to your efforts.

If you know of any Marines who haven't joined the detachment yet, get them to join and become one of the pack of recruiters who are in the hunt for the NJVC Recruiting Award!

## **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND SEMPER FI STORE**

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/>

<https://the-semper-fi-store.myshopify.com/>

## **MID-EAST DIVISION**

<https://mclmideast.com/>

## **DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA**

<https://virginiamarines.com/>

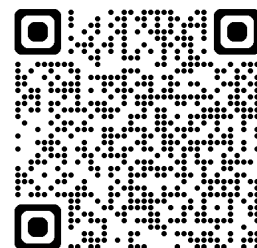


The Jack Maas Detachment supported the Department's Spring Convention (pictured above) in Fredericksburg VA during the weekend of 29-30 May. In addition to attending the Convention, our Members manned the Registration Table and provided hospitality duties, as well as arranging for and delivering meals for the attendees, and Jeremiah Burns catered the Banquet with his famous Barbeque! Hopefully we'll have some more pictures from this event for next month's newsletter.

## **DETACHMENT INFORMATION**

**Detachment Website:** [jackmaasmcl1379.org](http://jackmaasmcl1379.org)  
or scan the QR code using your smartphone:

**Detachment Email:** [JackMaasDetachment@gmail.com](mailto:JackMaasDetachment@gmail.com)



## Membership:

New Members. If you know a Marine who is considering joining the detachment, tell him/her NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN! The MCL's membership year ends in the summer, so we charge only \$25 for new memberships from 1 March through 30 June instead of the \$35 new member fee charged during the rest of the year. The fee can be paid by cash, check or credit card at one of our detachment meetings. In addition, of course, the prospective member must fill out an application, provide proof of honorable service (copy of DD214 or retired ID) and be voted in by the members attending one of our monthly meetings.

Payment of \$35 Annual Renewal Fees by PayPal. We will begin accepting membership renewal fees for the upcoming membership year in July. That renewal fee can be paid by cash, check or credit card at one of our monthly meetings. In addition, renewals can now be paid through PayPal, an on-line payment system. To pay through PayPal, first, go to the PayPal app on your smartphone and search for "[mcl1379paymaster@gmail.com](mailto:mcl1379paymaster@gmail.com)" as the entity to receive the payment. Then enter the amount of \$35 to be paid into our operations account for a single year's membership (you can pay for multiple years with one payment). Also, make sure you put info in the "memo" or "notes" section explaining what the payment is for. Then hit the "send" key and your payment will be sent to PayPal for deposit to our operations account. When the Paymaster is notified of the deposit, he will let you know by text or email that it has arrived.

We currently have four members who have not yet paid their renewal fees for the current membership year. If you're one of them, please pay your renewal fee as soon as possible.

If you're interested in becoming a Paid Life Member (PLM), talk to Paymaster Virgil Young. To become a PLM and never have to worry about annual renewals again, you can make a single payment based on your age:

35 years of age and lower:	\$1,000
36-50 years of age:	\$800
51-64 years of age:	\$600
65-84 years of age:	\$400
85 years of age and higher:	\$100

If you haven't been to a Detachment meeting in a while, please join us at our monthly meetings! We meet at the Moose Lodge at 10:00 on the third Saturday of each month. We would love to see you again! And if you know any other Marines who might be interested in joining our brotherhood, bring them along with you!

## Detachment Meeting:

Because of our support for the Marine Corps Half Marathon on Saturday 16 May, we moved our monthly Detachment meeting ahead a week to Saturday 9 May. During the meeting, we swore in three new Members: Aaron Davies, Tom Dempsey, and Brandon Bateman.



L-R: Aaron Davies, Tom Dempsey and Brandon Bateman are sworn as new Members of the Jack Maas Detachment.



Commandant Icolari welcoming our new Members to the Detachment.

## Bourbon and Cigars:

On 20 May, several Members of the Detachment and members of the Moose Lodge 1655 gathered under the pavilion at the Moose Lodge to enjoy some bourbon and cigars. Commandant Robert Icolari organized the event. A good time was had by all!



## Marine Corps Half Marathon:

Members of the Detachment supported the Marine Corps Half Marathon at the Fredericksburg Expo Center on Saturday 16 May.



(L-R: Sam McDonald, National Jr. Vice Commandant David Porter, Joe Plummer, Sean O’Gorman, Ernie Bartosh, Angela O’Gorman, Andy Dorman, and Ray Conklin)



*L-R: John Ashburn, Joe Plummer, Sean O’Gorman, Angela O’Gorman, Sam McDonald, Robert Icolari.*



*John Ashburn and Angela O’Gorman*

**“Flags Out” at Oak Hill Cemetery:**

Several Members of the Detachment, along with members of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 3103, placed flags at the graves of Veterans in Oak Hill Cemetery in Fredericksburg on a rainy Saturday, 23 May. Joe Plummer, Tai Mamea, Todd Taylor, Chris Rigopulos, Sheri Moore, Clayton Hill and Ernest Bartosh participated in the event, although a few folks departed before the group photo was taken. Thanks to everyone who showed up to decorate the graves, despite the rain.



**Memorial Day Ceremony:**

Ten Members of the Detachment showed up on a rainy Memorial Day to commemorate our fallen comrades at the Fredericksburg War Memorial. The Keynote Speaker, MajGen Jason Bohm (USMC Ret.), delivered a very poignant and personal speech about the need to remember the sacrifice of previous generations. While recent conflicts against lesser opponents have resulted in relatively few casualties, the Russian war with Ukraine has demonstrated that a war in the future against a near-peer competitor, like China, could shock the country, with the number of casualties on par with previous industrial-age wars, like World Wars I and II. He concluded with a personal story of his service in Iraq, where he lost one of his Marines in an IED attack, and the subsequent intelligence and combat operations to identify and capture or kill the insurgent leader responsible for the attack.



*Larry Gilchrist, Chairperson,  
Fredericksburg Area Veterans Council*



*Mary Kulesa, President FAVC*



*Kerry Devine, Mayor of  
Fredericksburg*



*Firefighter Color Guard.*



*Sr. Vice Commandant Ernie Bartosh  
introducing MajGen Bohm.*



*MajGen Jason Bohm delivering  
his remarks.*



*L-R: George Firehammer, Sam McDonald, Tai Mamea, Virgil Young, Robert Icolari,  
Andy Dorman, Ernie Bartosh, MajGen Jason Bohm, Kevin Brown, Sheri Moore,  
and Mike Chmielewski.*

## **Tax Exempt Status Update:**

by Paymaster Virgil Young

We have been working without success since 31 March 2025 to regain our tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(4) of the IRS Code. Based on the recommendation of MCL National Chief Operating Officer Bob Borka, on 20 April 2026 I applied for and received a new detachment IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN) under a slightly different corporate name. On 24 April, Detachment Judge Advocate Ronnie Edwards got our corporation papers with the VA State Corporation Commission amended with the changed name and new EIN.

However, 2 additional IRS forms must be submitted for approval to get the required tax-exempt status. On 4 May, I paid the \$50 filing fee and filed the first form, which simply notifies the IRS that we intend to operate as a 501(c)(4) tax-exempt organization. Since our bylaws state that the detachment members must approve any payments over \$500, and the filing fee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> IRS form is \$600, I had to get the membership approval before filing that form. Therefore, I made a motion at the 9 May detachment meeting to pay the fee, and the attendees approved the motion. As a result, on 23 May, I submitted the 2<sup>nd</sup> form, Form 1024A (Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(4) of the IRS Code), which was 17 pages long with a scanned attachment of another 20 pages, and paid the \$600 filing fee.

One page of the attachment to the Form 1024A was a request for expedited review – we're supposed to be notified if they grant the expedited review request. The automated acknowledgment I got of successful receipt of the Form 1024A provided a website to use to check on the status of the application, but it did NOT say when we might get a determination letter. When I did a Google search asking about how long it would take to get a tax-exempt determination letter, the Google AI Assistant replied that the IRS handles about 80% of these applications in 5 to 7 months, so I sincerely hope they grant the expedited review request!

While we wait for the IRS action, you should be aware of new guidelines we must operate under. On 22 April 2026, the MCL National Judge Advocate sent us guidelines about what our detachment can and can't do until we re-gain our tax-exempt status. Basically, those guidelines say we can accept new members, renew annual memberships, and hold and attend MCL meetings at all levels but we cannot host community events. We also cannot sponsor any public events, and we must freeze discretionary spending and document payment of unavoidable expenses. One of the other restrictions in the guidelines, however, may have the greatest long-term impact. It says we may NOT do any fundraising or accept any donations until we regain our tax-exempt status. Unfortunately, this hits at a time when we were just starting our fundraisers for a 2026 Birthday Ball in November and starting to approach possible sponsors for a future detachment-sponsored golf tournament in the fall. If the restriction against fundraising or accepting donations is not lifted within the next several months, we will probably have to cancel those events because we won't have time to raise the funds we need to put them on.

## **2026 Detachment Birthday Ball:**

by Committee Chair Virgil Young

Unfortunately, while we resolve our tax-exempt status, we will have to suspend our Birthday Ball fundraising activities, We'll provide an up-date if anything changes.

## **Challenge Coins:**

If you are interested in owning a piece of our Detachment's (and Marine Corps) history, there are still a limited quantity of Jack Maas Detachment 250<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Birthday challenge coins available. Coins are \$20 each, with a \$0.70 service charge per coin for credit card purchases.

## STP Dinner:

STP stands for “Same Ten/Twenty/Thirty People”. We invite all Members and their significant others to join us for future STP dinners; we choose a different restaurant to eat at, beginning at 18:00 on the 4th Thursday of each month. This is another opportunity to socialize with fellow Marines outside of our monthly meetings. If you’d like to recommend and coordinate an upcoming STP dinner - or dinners! - please contact Mike Chmielewski.

In May, 18 of us enjoyed delicious food and comradeship at Itavie Italian restaurant in the Spotsylvania Courthouse area:



*Ernie and Maureen Bartosh, Angela and Sean O’Gorman, and Robert Icolari.*



*“Doc” and Kathleen Holladay, Ray and Faye Conklin.*



*April and Joe Plummer, “Doc” and Kathleen Holladay.*



*Virgil Young and Tai Mamea.*



*Amy Mamea and Ann Young.*



*Susan Valarino and Roy Murphy.*



*Susan Valarino and Jeff Ogilvie.*

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2 Steve Hansen  
14 Jonathan Myers  
16 Aaron Davies

25 Mark Lehman  
28 Jeremiah Burns

## **MARINE CORPS HISTORY IN JUNE**

- 2 June 1942 The Battle of Midway began, including the 6th Defense Battalion, USMC.
- 2 June 1918 The crack German 28th Division attacked at dawn along the axis of the Paris-Metz road hitting the American 2d Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened with deadly rifle fire and helped hand the German troops a setback which set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow, although at great cost.
- 8 June 1995 Marines from 3/8, assigned to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit stationed on board the USS Kearsarge, rescued a downed U.S. Air Force pilot, Captain Scott O'Grady, from Bosnian-Serb territory in Bosnia.
- 10 June 1898 The First Marine Battalion, commanded by LtCol Robert W. Huntington, landed on the eastern side of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The next day, Lt Herbert L. Draper hoisted the American flag on a flag pole at Camp McCalla where it flew during the next eleven days. LtCol Huntington later sent the flag with an accompanying letter to Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood noting that "when bullets were flying, ...the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts."
- 12 June 1961 President John F. Kennedy signed a Presidential Proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, "at all times during the day and night." Discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier in 1961 on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument led to the proposal to fly the Flag continuously.
- 14 June 1777 Flag Day commemorates the date that the Continental Congress determined the composition of the nation's banner: "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."
- 15 June 1944 Preceded by naval gunfire and carrier air strikes, the V Amphibious Corps assaulted the west coast of Saipan, Marianas Islands. By nightfall, the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions, moving against heavy opposition, had established a beachhead 10,000 yards wide and 1,500 yards deep.
- 20 June 1993 The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit returned to Mogadishu, Somalia, to stand ready to assist United Nations forces in maintaining peace in the war-torn country. Earlier that month, the 24th MEU had been ordered to cut short Exercise Eager Mace 93-2 in Kuwait to respond to possible contingency operations in Somalia.
- 25 June 1950 Shortly before dawn, eight divisions of the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea. Within three days, the South Korean capital city of Seoul had been captured. On 30 June, President Harry S. Truman ordered a naval blockade of the Korean coast and authorized the deployment of U.S. ground troops to Korea. Two days later, General Douglas MacArthur, the Commander in Chief Far East, formally requested that a Marine regimental combat team be sent to the Far East.
- 25 June 1966 In Vietnam, Operation Jay began about 30 kilometers northwest of Hue, and lasted nine days. The 2d Battalion, 4th Marines landed north of the North Vietnamese 812th Main Force Battalion, and the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines landed south of the enemy's

position. Caught between the two Marine units, the enemy suffered over 80 dead in nine days of fighting.

26 June 1918 BGen James G. Harbord, the Commanding General of the 4th Marine Brigade, notified American Expeditionary Force Headquarters that Belleau Wood was "now U.S. Marine Corps entirely." After 20 days of combat, and at a cost of over 4,000 casualties, the 4th Brigade had proven its fighting heart. The grateful Commander of the French Sixth Army would soon decree that in all official correspondence, Belleau Wood would henceforth bear the name, "Bois de la Brigade de Marine."

## **ORIGINS OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG**

Provided by Steve Hansen

Ahead of Flag Day on 14 June, this is a good opportunity to review how the first Stars and Stripes came to be.

In the summer of 1776 (or possibly 1777) Betsy Ross, newly widowed, is said to have received a visit from General [George Washington](#) regarding a design for a flag for the new nation. Washington and the Continental Congress had come up with the basic layout, but, according to legend, Betsy allegedly finalized the design, arguing for stars with five points (Washington had suggested six) because the cloth could be folded and cut out with a single snip.

The tale of Washington's visit to Ross was first made public in 1870, nearly a century later, by Betsy Ross's grandson. However, the flag's design was not fixed until later than 1776 or 1777. Charles Wilson Peale's 1779 painting of George Washington following the 1777 Battle of Princeton features a flag with six-pointed stars.

Betsy Ross was making flags around that time; a receipt shows that the [Pennsylvania](#) State Navy Board paid her 15 pounds for sewing ship's standards. But similar receipts exist for Philadelphia seamstresses Margaret Manning (from as early as 1775), Cornelia Bridges (1776) and Rebecca Young, whose daughter Mary Pickersgill would sew the mammoth flag that flew over Ft. McHenry in Baltimore during the War of 1812, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write "[The Star-Spangled Banner](#)."



[to fold and cut a 5 pointed star](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqacRAzLQ5A>

# **FLAGS OF THE UNITED STATES**

Provided by Steve Hansen

Over the years, Congress has approved changes to the design of the flag, including the addition of stars and bars to represent the number of states in the Union. There's often a lag between when states were admitted to the Union, and when the flag was updated. For example, there were actually 18 states during the War of 1812, but the flag sported 15 stars and 15 stripes during that conflict, and was not updated until several years later.



1775 – 1777 Continental Union



1777 – 1795 13 Stars



1792 Betsy Ross 13 Stars



Battle of Bennington 13 Stars



1795-1818 15 stars 15 stripes



1819 – 1820 21 Stars



1822 – 1836 24 Stars



1837 – 1845 25 Stars



1846 -1847 28 Stars



1851 – 1858 31 Stars



1863 – 1865 35 Stars



1865 -1867 36 Stars



1908 – 1912 46 Stars



48 Stars 1912 – 1959



50 Stars 1960 – Present

## **AROUND THE CORPS**

### **Museum of the Marine:**

The Museum of the Marine in Jacksonville NC will open on 8 June.

### **Women Veteran's Day:**

On 12 June we celebrate Women Veteran's Day! Thank you to all of our female Members for your service to our Corps and country!

## **NEWS YOU CAN USE**

### **VA Resources:**

- For any questions or requests, [1-800-MyVA411](tel:1-800-MyVA411) (1-800-698-2411) is always the right number.
- [Veterans Crisis Line](#): 988 and press 1, [Chat](#), or Text [838255](tel:838255)
- [Vet Centers](#): 1-877-927-8387
- [Homeless Veteran Resources](#): 1-877-424-3838 or [Chat](#)
- [Ask VA](#)
- [Schedule a 1-on-1 Appointment with a VA Benefits Expert](#)
- [Find a VA facility near you](#)

For non-urgent questions, you can reach VA using the [VA Health & Benefits App](#) or [MyHealtheVet](#) secure messaging to schedule an appointment, refill prescriptions, and access your medical records.

### **USMC Forever Stamps:**

You can now buy Marine Corps stamps, as well as stamps for other services, commemorating 250 years of service, at the Post Office.



"Kind-hearted people might of course think there was some ingenious way to disarm or defeat an enemy without too much bloodshed, and might imagine this is the true goal of the art of war. Pleasant as it sounds; it is a fallacy that must be exposed: War is such a dangerous business that the mistakes which come from kindness are the very worst."

Carl von Clausewitz

## **MARINE CORPS “SOS” RECIPE**

Finally, have you ever wondered how they made “SOS” in the Mess Hall?! Here’s a recipe that Steve Hansen found online:

### **Ingredients:**

- 1lb ground beef
- 1 ½ tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 cup beef broth
- ½ cup evaporated milk
- salt and pepper
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce



### **Directions:**

1. Brown the ground beef in a medium skillet over medium-high heat, until meat is no longer pink. Drain excess fat and set aside.
2. Melt the butter or margarine in a medium saucepan over medium high heat. Slowly add the flour, stirring constantly, to form a brown roux.
3. Pour in beef broth and milk, mixing well. Add ground beef, then season with salt and pepper to taste, onion powder, garlic powder and Worcestershire sauce.
4. Mix well and simmer for 5-10 mins, until desired thickness is reached. Spread over toast.

## **LCPL CALEB JOHN POWERS UNIT YOUNG MARINES**

### **POWERS' PRIDE**

by YM/Sgt Clevenger from the Lance Corporal Caleb John Powers Unit.



This Memorial Day, I had the opportunity to participate in the Washington, DC Memorial Day Parade through my involvement with the Young Marines public affairs team. While I was not marching in the parade itself, I helped support and document the event behind the scenes while honoring the meaning of Memorial Day and remembering the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Throughout the event, I was able to see veterans, community organizations, first responders, and families all come together in remembrance and gratitude. Being involved reminded me that Memorial Day is not just another holiday, but a day dedicated to honoring those who gave their lives in service to the United States. Seeing the support and respect shown throughout the parade made the experience especially meaningful.

Working in public affairs also gave me the opportunity to help preserve and share those moments with others. Whether through photos, assisting with coverage of the event, or helping represent the Young Marines in the community, I was proud to contribute in a different but still important way. Even though I was behind the scenes, I still felt connected to the purpose of the event and the message it represented.



As a Young Marine, experiences like this continue teaching me the importance of leadership, service, patriotism, and community involvement. Participating in Memorial Day events help remind me why it is so important to honor veterans and remember those who sacrificed everything for our freedoms. I am grateful I had the opportunity to be part of such a meaningful event and represent the Young Marines during our community's Memorial Day parade.

### **The Young Marines Need Help from Real Marines!**

by Young Marine Liaison Virgil Young

The Young Marine Program was started in 1958 by an MCL Detachment in Bridgeport, CT. It has evolved into a national education and service program for boys and girls ages eight through high school graduation modeled after the Marine Corps. It now includes more than 5,000 kids and 2,000 adult volunteers in more than 200 YM units across 40 states and overseas. The unit in Fredericksburg is named in honor of Marine Lance Corporal Caleb John Powers, a former Young Marine. LCpl Powers was killed by a sniper on Aug. 17, 2004. while assigned to Fox Co., 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, in Anbar Province, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The YM National Headquarters conducts background checks of prospective adult volunteers, provides training and administrative guidelines, and specifies requirements for advancement through the YM ranks. It also finances a few national-level schools. However, the success of each unit basically comes down to the adult volunteers working with the kids at the unit level. While adult volunteers don't have to be Marines, it's especially important to have real Marines as adult volunteers at times when a unit's senior Young Marines leave the program as they graduate from high school. While the LCpl Powers YM Unit currently has 2 of our detachment members as adult volunteers (Unit Commander Kirk Ross and Jose Vazquez), they need help from more of our members. If you want to be part of a great program helping kids become great adults, please contact Unit Commander Kirk Ross at (540) 845-5985 or at [kirkross3030@gmail.com](mailto:kirkross3030@gmail.com) to find out what areas he needs help with and how to become a YM Adult Volunteer.

The LCpl Powers YM Unit generally holds drills starting at 0900 hours on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at VFW Post 3103, located at 701 Princess Anne St., Fredericksburg.

"It's a funny thing, but, as years go by, I think you appreciate more and more what a great thing it was to be a United States Marine... People will tell me what a shame it was I had to go back into the service a second time, but I'm kinda glad I did. Besides, I am a U.S. Marine and I'll be one till I die."

Ted Williams

## *In Memoriam*

*Dedicated to perpetuating the memory of those members of Jack Maas Detachment #1379 who have preceded us in reporting to our Supreme Commandant for assignment to their Final Duty Stations. May we ever remember them and honor their service and sacrifices.*

<b>Name, Final Rank</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Survived By</b>	<b>Internment</b>
Larry Shandor, SSgt	4 March 2026	Children	Quantico
Chris Bennett, Major	24 Nov 2024	Oesuk	Quantico
Billy C. Henry, Major	8 Aug 2024	Family	Arlington
William Zlater, MSgt	24 July 2024	Denise	Unknown
Scott Pipenhagen, CWO3	28 April 2024	Suzanne	Quantico
Tiffany Zapata, Cpl	15 May 2023	Nelson	Private Burial
Ralph Wilcox, MSgt	12 April 2023	Children	Quantico
William Bovee, Capt	16 Dec 2022	Margaret	Quantico
Joseph Venable, MGySgt	15 Nov 2022	Jane	Quantico
Robert Guest, GySgt	1 Sep 2022	Mother	Not Stated
Dennis Chambers, Private	25 May 2022	Family	NH State Vet Cemetery
Lawrence "Doc" Rephanshek	12 May 2022	Irene	Quantico
John Hopkins, Major	4 Dec 2021	Daughter	Quantico
Ron Hardisty, SSgt	6 Nov 2021	Son	Quantico
Joseph Bongiovi, Sgt	25 Sep 2021	Barbara	Quantico
Alan Roberts, SgtMaj	19 Sep 2021	Donna	Private Burial
Russell Lloyd, LtCol	7 May 2021	Jean	Quantico
Donald Shiffert, MSgt	19 Oct 2020	Jean	Quantico
Theodore Hartung, LCpl	22 Aug 2020	Betty	Quantico
William Woolf, Sgt	31 May 2019	Lillie	Quantico
Marv Pixton III, Col	15 Jan 2018	Missy	Arlington
Francis Spalding, Unk	27 Mar 2016	Family	Amhurst Cemetery, VA
Anthony Arbisi, Capt	3 June 2015	5 Children	Arlington
Robert Lyman, Major	19 May 2015	Carol	Quantico
Louis Orlando, Capt	21 Sep 2011	Mary	Quantico

*Semper Fi*