

Semper Certior

Official Newsletter of the Jack Maas Detachment 1379 Marine Corps League



August / September 2026

The July edition of the newsletter incorrectly listed the Detachment Upcoming Events for August. They are correctly listed below. I regret the error. Also, as you can see above, this newsletter covers August and September, as I will be traveling out of the country from late August into early September.

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



Sean O'Gorman
Web Sergeant



Clint Firstbrook
Marketing



Dani Butler
Quartermaster

DETACHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

August:

10 Detachment Officer's Meeting, 18:00; Hope Presbyterian Church.
15 Detachment Meeting, 10:00; Moose Lodge.
Breakfast, 09:00 before the meeting.
27 STP Dinner, 18:00; Jimmy the Greek restaurant.

September:

5 Fred Nats Baseball Game, 18:35 first pitch.
14 Detachment Officer's Meeting, 18:00; Hope Presbyterian Church.
19 Detachment Meeting, 10:00; Moose Lodge.
24 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...

LtCol Roy Elrod USMC (Ret.) Memorial Lunch:

Here's another opportunity to mingle with fellow Marines. Join us at 10:30 for lunch on the first Tuesday of each month at the Golden Corral in the Massaponax area; 10320 Spotsylvania Ave.

Fred Nats Game:

The Detachment is planning another evening at the Fred Nats game at 18:35 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; please see details later in the newsletter. This event has been well attended over the past few years, and we hope to see you all there again!

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 AND DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Department of Virginia Fall Conference, 9-10 October 2026 in Winchester VA.

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.

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/>

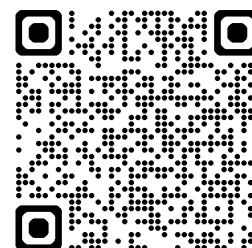
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

<https://virginiamarines.com/>

DETACHMENT INFORMATION

Detachment Website: jackmaasmcl1379.org
or scan the QR code using your smartphone:

Detachment Email: JackMaasDetachment@gmail.com



Membership:

Annual Renewal Fees are due. If you are an annual dues-paying member, not a Paid Life Member, your \$35 annual fee payment for the upcoming membership year is due. That renewal fee can be paid by cash, check or credit card at one of our monthly meetings. You can also mail a check to PO Box 7515, Fredericksburg, VA 22404. 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” as the entity to receive the payment. Then enter the amount of \$35, though you can also pay for multiple years if you want to do so. 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.

If you haven't paid your dues for the 2025-26 year, please pay your renewal fee as soon as possible. If your past-due fees are not paid by 15 Sept., we will be required to remove you from our membership roster.

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!

“The Marines fought almost solely on esprit de corps, I was certain. It was inconceivable to most Marines that they should let another Marine down, or that they could be responsible for dimming the bright reputation of their Corps. The Marines simply assumed that they were the world's best fighting men.”

Robert Sherrod

Detachment Membership Anniversaries:

This is a new monthly feature that highlights when Members joined the Marine Corps League. This month we celebrate the following Members for achieving these milestones in August:

Alexa MacMurray joined our Detachment on 11 August 2023.

Daniel Kachmar and Glenn Patterson became Members on 18 August 2025.

Jason Hierwarter joined on 19 August 2024.

Paul Lozinski joined on the 18th back in 2011.

Ronnie Edwards, our Judge Advocate, became a Member on 21 August 2023.

And Mark Weinhardt joined us on 31 August 2024.

Congratulations on your Membership anniversaries!

New Member Spotlight:

by Mike Chmielewski

Tom Dempsey is originally from Shirley, Massachusetts and grew up in New Hampshire. After graduation from High School in June 1971, he attended the United States Naval Academy. During his four years at Annapolis, Tom trained on several amphibious ships in the North Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea as part of the annual summer training program for midshipmen, and attended the US Army Basic Parachutist course at Ft. Benning, GA. On 4 June 1975, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant by General Robert E. Cushman, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Upon completion of The Basic School in March 1976, he reported to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, FL for flight training, and in January 1977 he transferred to Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, NC for duty with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW). He was assigned to Marine Air Support Squadron (MASS)-1, Marine Air Control Group (MACG)-28. Tom served as the Squadron Engineer/Utilities Officer before attending air schools at Marine Corps Base (MCB) 29 Palms. Upon his return to Cherry Point, he was designated an Air Support Control Officer, and deployed to support various exercises. He was also an Air Support Radar Team (ASRT) controller, and served as a Senior Air Controller in the deployed Tactical Air Command Center (TACC) supporting Marine Air Weapons Training Unit Atlantic (MAWTULant) during the fledging Weapons Tactics Instructor (WTI) course.

In January 1979, Tom transferred to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, and was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron (H&HS)-18, MACG-18, at MCAS Futenma as the Administrative Officer, and served as the H&HS-18 Executive Officer. He transferred to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey CA in February 1980 for a two-year course of instruction in the Weapons Systems Engineering curriculum leading to a Master's degree in Engineering Science. While there, he developed a microprocessor-based program to determine aircraft combat vulnerability/survivability performing Close Air Support missions as part of his thesis work.

In May 1982, he had orders to the United States Naval Academy as an instructor, and was assigned to the Electrical Engineering Department teaching basic electricity and electronics. He also served several years as the commissioning officer for midshipmen who selected the Marine Corps upon graduation. He was actively involved with the Airborne Training Unit-Parachute Club, Scuba Club and Ice Hockey Club. In March 1984, he attended a course of instruction at the US Army Quartermaster Parachute Rigger's School in Ft. Lee, VA where he became qualified to pack and inspect parachutes. Later that summer Tom took a group of midshipmen to Panama City FL for

Navy scuba training at the Navy Diving and Salvage Training Center, and served as the Class Leader during the five-week course, and was designated a military scuba diver upon graduation.

In June 1985 Tom reported for duty with the 2nd MAW as the Assistant Operations Officer at H&HS-28, where he served as the Squadron Training Officer and Senior Air Controller. During this assignment, he served as a Senior Air Director for the Tactical Air Commander, and participated in cold weather training and operated the Tactical Air Command Center for 2nd MAW. In February 1986, he was sent to MCAS Yuma to complete the course of instruction at Marine Air Weapons Training Squadron-1. Upon completion, he was designated a WTI and returned to H&HS-18 to set up operator training. In June, Tom was transferred to the 2nd MAW staff for duty as the Staff Secretary to Generals Jack Dailey and Mike Sullivan.

In February 1987, he was reassigned as the Executive Officer of 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense (LAAD) Battalion. While there, Tom also served as a designated safety diver for the Naval Hospital Cherry Point for pilots and aircrew undergoing water survival and aircraft ditching (aka, "helo dunker") training. In March 1988, he went back down to NDSTC to get qualified in the Navy's Mk I surface-supplied diving rig for use in the training tank.

In June 1989, Tom left the states bound for 1st MAW, Okinawa, where he served as the Executive Officer of Marine Air Group-90. During this assignment, he deployed to support numerous exercises throughout the Asia-Pacific theater, including Okinawa, Korea and the Philippines, and "fleeted up" to serve as the Commanding Officer in November 1989. Additionally, he continued to conduct water survival training and helicopter escape training for designated aircrews in support of the 1st MAW Director of Safety. Following his change of command in August 1991, he transferred to the 1st MAW staff for duty as the Wing Air Control Officer, and in 1992 he was given the additional duty as the G-3 Fixed Wing Officer for 1st MAW. During this time, Tom also continued to conduct water survival training for the 1st MAW Safety.

In June 1992 Tom left Okinawa for assignment to the Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM), Quantico, VA, as the Assistant Program Manager for Aviation Command and Control Systems, including the Improved DASC and the Advanced Tactical Command Center. In December 1993 He transferred to Camp Pendleton as the Commanding Officer of 3rd LAAD Battalion. During his tenure, the Battalion conducted the first live firing of the Avenger Air Defense system by the Marine Corps on San Clemente Island. He relinquished command in July of 1995 and returned to Quantico, where he was again the Assistant Program Manager for Aviation Command and Control Systems. He was designated an Acquisition Professional in July 1996, and in August he was assigned as the Operations Officer, Program Analysis and Evaluation, MARCORSYSCOM where he remained until his retirement on 3 October 1997.

Tom has been married to the former Mabel Lucas from Morehead City, NC since 1979. He and Mabel currently live at Jubilation, the 55+ Active Adult Apartments in Fredericksburg, where he established the Veterans' Breakfast Club, a monthly meeting of area veterans of all services living at Jubilation. Tom also convinced the management of Jubilation to set up a Cigar and Bourbon Lounge on-site; you can usually find him there most afternoons. In addition to his membership in the Marine Corp League, Tom is also a member of Veterans On Board, the local Irish Brigade Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and Gideons International. Tom and Mabel have two children, Traci, a Thornburg Middle School science teacher and a son, Jason, a retired Marine Corps Officer who now works for Dedrone, a counter UAS company. They also have two grandchildren, one girl and one boy.

Welcome to the Jack Maas Detachment, Tom!

"I like whiskey. I always did, and that is why I never drink it."

Robert E. Lee

Detachment Meeting:

During our monthly Detachment meeting on 18 July, we presented the MCL Distinguished Service award to Ed Homendy, and the Distinguished Citizen Award to his wife, Cathy, for their efforts in support of the annual Toys For Tots drive. Ed also received his Life Membership Card:



Commandant Icolari, Ed and Cathy Homendy listen as SVC Ernie Bartosh reads the award citations.



Commandant Icolari presents the Distinguished Service Award to Ed Homendy.



Commandant Icolari presents the Distinguished Citizen Award to Cathy Homendy.

Clint Firstbrook was appointed and sworn in as our new Marketing Officer. Clint will work to increase our Detachment's visibility in the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania communities.

Dani Butler was appointed and sworn in as our new Quartermaster, relieving Andy Dorman and Sam McDonald of their responsibilities as Quartermasters after their four years of outstanding service.

Thank you both for stepping up to serve our Detachment!



We also swore in a new Member to our Detachment; Cody Henry. Cody is a Seargent in the Marine Corps, and is currently in the process of separating from Active Duty, and is the Grandson of Tim Hoernig. Welcome aboard, Cody!



Cody Henry sworn in as our newest Member.



Commandant Icolari welcoming Cody to our Detachment!



Tim Hoernig and his grandson Cody.

Tim Hoernig's Family Story

Tim's journey in the Marines started with a Marine veteran of Guadalcanal who saw something in Tim when he was a 10-year-old boy. The Marine veteran planted the seed that culminated in Tim's 30-year career, and a legacy that started in 1972 is ongoing with a family of Marines for the past 54 years, with no break, and a total of 17 Marines, including a brother, sister, sons, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephews, nieces, nephew-in-laws, cousins, grandson and so far, one great cousin. A truly remarkable Marine family!

Military Order of the Devil Dog

by Tim Hoernig

We have been working on trying to establish a new Military Order of the Devil Dog (MODD) "Pound" for the Jack Maas Detachment for the past two years. We have recently been granted a Charter by the National MODD Kennel of the Marine Corps League. There is still a lot of work to do prior to Installation.

The MODD is the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League. The MODD was established by Commandant Lejeune after WWI to allow fellow Marines to let off a little stress in a fun way while remaining respectful of each other. We meet once a quarter. To become a member of the Order, you must be a Regular member of the Marine Corps League in good standing for one year. New Members will not be able to join until we have our Pound initiated.

Stand-by for more to come.

"WOOF, WOOF!",
PDD Tim Hoernig 10-352

Key Ceremony for LCpl Duncan Mathis

Senior Vice Commandant Ernie Bartosh has invited the Members of the Detachment to participate in the Key Ceremony for the new custom house that was built by Homes For Our Troops for LCpl Duncan Mathis at 7832 Curtis Lane, Spotsylvania VA 22551, from 08:30 – 11:00 on Saturday 1 August. Duncan was severely wounded during his service in Afghanistan. All who would like to attend the ceremony are welcome, but please see the notice below and RSVP using the link on the website: www.hoftusa.org/Mathis. In order to show our support and increase our visibility in the community, attendees are requested to wear our red short sleeve shirts and red covers. Please see Ernie Bartosh if you have any questions about this event.



KEY CEREMONY

Marine LCpl Duncan Mathis

Please join us

as we present the keys to a new specially adapted custom home for LCpl Mathis in Spotsylvania, VA.

On May 19, 2013, during his first deployment, Lance Corporal Duncan "Matty" Mathis was serving with the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines, when he fell 83 feet through a non-explosive booby trap into a well during a raid in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He sustained several injuries from the fall, including multiple broken bones throughout his body and a traumatic brain injury (TBI). After one year of surgeries and rehabilitation, he decided to have doctors amputate his left leg below the knee.

Visit www.hoftusa.org/Mathis to learn more.

Prior to attending, please visit the RSVP link to confirm event details

OUR MISSION: To build and donate specially adapted custom homes nationwide for severely injured post-9/11 Veterans, to enable them to rebuild their lives.

HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS

Trip to Visit Chesty Puller's Grave

We had planned to visit Chesty's gravesite in Saluda VA on Saturday 11 July, however we had to postpone due to unforeseen circumstances. We're still planning to go, but the date is currently TBD.

Major James Capers, Medal Of Honor Recipient

In last month's newsletter we featured the story of Maj Jim Capers heroic actions during the Vietnam War, including the recent ceremony at the White House to award him the Congressional Medal of Honor. Our Adjutant, Steve Hansen, mentioned that he recently purchased and read the book, "Faith Through The Storm" about Major Capers, and he highly recommended it to our Members.

Book About Col Jack Maas

Our Detachment Commandant, Robert Icolari, mentioned that the book about Col Jack Maas, the namesake of our Detachment, is nearing completion, and royalties from the sale of the book will be donated to our Detachment once our Tax-Exempt status is approved by the IRS.

5th Annual Fredericksburg Nationals Game

by Kevin Brown



Join us for the Fredericksburg Nationals' final home game weekend, with first pitch honors for our group, followed by a world-class fireworks display directly after the game!

Game day: Saturday 5 Sep 26. Gates open at 17:35, free food service from 18:05-19:35, and game starts at 18:35,

Theme: Crayola night (*they knew we were coming!*), and cancer awareness night.

Location: Virginia Federal Credit Union Stadium (42 Jackie Robinson Way, Fredericksburg 22401), 3rd Deck Sky Porch (in the shade). Park at the adjacent Fredericksburg Convention Center. Limited handicap parking is available next to the stadium (get there early).

Price: \$40/ticket + \$5 parking pass (if desired). Without pass, parking is \$8 at the lot. Ticket price includes admission and also includes a free buffet of hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, chips, cookies, water, tea, and lemonade. A drink cart with sodas and beer for additional purchase will also be provided. Credit cards only (no cash payments allowed at the stadium).

A maximum of 65 participants can attend (first come, first serve). Open to mcl members and family and friends (good opportunity to invite/outreach to local Marines who aren't MCL members yet).

Please RSVP by 6 Aug 26 to Kevin Brown at kwbuvanpsusmc@gmail.com / (571) 488-0827. As a season ticket holder, Kevin received a significantly discounted rate by prepaying for the tickets. He will need to be repaid via PayPal (@kevinbrown433) or Venmo (@kwbuvanpsusmc) or CashApp (\$kwbuvanpsusmc) or personal check/cash provided at the upcoming August meeting or mail check to 460 Riverside Dr. Fredericksburg, VA 22401.

Upon payment, tickets will be sent via email/text. Each ticket will include a barcode that can be scanned from your phone/printed for entry on game day.

Finally, for those who don't drive at night, sunset will be at 19:33 that evening. So, you can come for the food, stay for several innings, and still make it home before dark.

9/11 Remembrance Ceremonies:

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 Terror Attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon, and Flight 93 in Shanksville PA. While the Detachment isn't currently scheduled to participate in any ceremonies as an organization, there will be activities to remember and commemorate the lives lost on that tragic day that changed America and led to Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. If you served during OEF and/or OIF, know that your service is honored and respected. Thank You!

Tax Exempt Status Update:

by Paymaster Virgil Young

Unfortunately, there is no change to our status since last month. In late June, we were told that our financial restrictions would not be lifted until our detachment was listed on the IRS Exempt Organization Business Master File (EOBMF) as a 501(c)(4) tax-exempt organization under Parent Group 0955. According to our national executive director, this file is up-dated quarterly, and the next up-date should be made about 12 Aug. I have been checking the EOBMF periodically, hoping that it might have been updated early. Unfortunately, we are still not listed as of 28 July. As soon as we are listed on the EOBMF and are back to regular financial operations, I will let all our members know.

2026 Detachment Birthday Ball:

by Committee Chair Virgil Young

While we are waiting for the IRS to resolve our tax-exempt status, we have suspended our Birthday Ball fundraising activities. We will 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 250th Marine Corps Birthday challenge coins available. Coins are \$20 each, with a \$0.70 service charge per coin for credit card purchases.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

5	Tim Hoernig	17	Daniel Kachmar
6	Jesus Dominguez	26	Brian Downs
10	Mike Burns	27	Clayton Hill
11	George Fenton	31	Clinton Firstbrook
13	John Jackson	31	Glenn Patterson

" "Some people wonder all their lives if they've made a difference.
The Marines don't have that problem."

Ronald Reagan

STP Dinner:

In case you haven't heard, 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 July, 19 Members of our Detachment and our significant others gathered at Sakura Japanese restaurant on Rt. 3. As well as the "usual suspects", we were joined by some new faces, and our new transfer Member, Tommy Martinez, along with his wife Rebecca. In addition to a delicious dinner, everyone enjoyed "the show", including the "Flaming Volcano Onion", and "Catch the Flying Shrimp"! Nice grab, April!



We plan to get together again at Jimmy the Greek restaurant, 3401 Lafayette Blvd. at 18:00 on Thursday 24 August. Please RSVP to Ernie Bartosh. Hope you can join us!

MARINE CORPS HISTORY IN AUGUST

- 1 Aug 1944 After nine days of fighting in a battle termed "the perfect amphibious operation of World War II," MajGen Harry Schmidt, commander of V Amphibious Corps, declared the island of Tinian secured. The combination of surprise, heavy pre-assault bombardment, and effective logistical support was responsible for Tinian's recapture with a much lower casualty rate (344 killed and 1550 wounded) than had been experienced in previous landings.
- 3 Aug 1950 Eight Corsairs of VMF-214, the famed "Black Sheep" squadron of World War II, launched from the USS SICILY and executed the first Marine aviation mission in the Korean War in a raid against enemy installations near Inchon. After the F4Us delivered their incendiary bombs and rockets on their targets, the Marines concluded their greeting to the Communist troops with a series of strafing runs.
- 7 Aug 1990 President Bush ordered U.S. military aircraft and troops to Saudi Arabia as part of a multinational force to defend that nation against possible Iraqi invasion. One week later the Marine Corps announced the commitment of 45,000 troops to the Persian Gulf area as part of Operation Desert Shield which would become the largest deployment of U.S. forces since the Vietnam War.
- 9 Aug 1942 With the Guadalcanal airstrip secure after heavy fighting with the Japanese, the 1st Engineer Battalion commenced work on the runway using captured equipment. Three days later, on 12 August, the first plane landed on Henderson Field, a Navy PBV which evacuated two wounded Marines. Nearly 3,000 wounded Marines would be evacuated from Henderson Field during the battle.
- 17 Aug 1942 Just prior to dawn, the 2d Marine Raider Battalion under LtCol Evans F. Carlson landed on Makin Island from the submarines NAUTILUS and ARGONAUT. The next day the Marines left the island after destroying a seaplane base, two radio stations, a supply warehouse, and killing about 100 Japanese soldiers.
- 21 Aug 1968 PFC James Anderson, Jr., was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by Secretary of the Navy, Paul R. Ignatius, for heroism in Vietnam while serving as a rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines in February 1967. This was the first Medal of Honor presented to an African-American Marine. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson, Sr., received the award during ceremonies at Marine Barracks, 8th and I.
- 23 Aug 1984 The last Marines to serve peace-keeping duty in Lebanon arrived home. The 24th Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) arrived off the coast of Lebanon on 9 April to relieve Marines of the 22d MAU who were guarding the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The 24th MAU left Beirut on 31 July, marking the last presence of U.S. combat troops in Beirut since Marines entered almost two years earlier.
- 24 Aug 1814 Captain Samuel Miller's 100-man detachment from Marine Barracks, Washington, fought in the battle of Bladensburg for the defense of the national capital. After helping to fight back three British charges, Captain Miller was wounded and the enemy began to work around both flanks of the American force. Almost encircled, the force of sailors and Marines was forced to retire to avoid capture. The Marines lost 8 killed and 14 wounded.

"For over 221 years our Corps has done two things for this great Nation.
We make Marines, and we win battles."

Charles C. Krulak

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.

Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/VADVS/bulletins/41d8086>

VA Warns Veterans About Free Shoe Scam, Confirms Real Footwear Benefit:

Scammers copied a real VA benefit. Three weeks in, the VA hasn't said where the fake shoe offer sends veterans who respond to it.

https://www.military.com/va-warns-veterans-about-free-shoe-scam-confirms-real-footwear-benefit?lid=pznpwgyg4tdn&utm_source=MLT-nl_marines_vi_2026-07-21&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=MLT-202607212100&user=bWlrZWNobWllbDYxQGdtYWlsLmNvbTptbHQ&utm_source=MLT-nl_marines_vi_2026-07-21&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=MLT-202607212100&user=bWlrZWNobWllbDYxQGdtYWlsLmNvbTptbHQ

Here's How to Maximize VA Benefits over Your Lifetime:

VA benefits can play a critical role in a veteran's financial plan. Here's a three-tiered look at how to make the most of what's available, based on where you are in life.

https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/heres-how-maximize-va-benefits-over-your-lifetime.html?lid=5zcdp5e9ivsu&utm_source=MLT-nl_military-report_2026-07-20&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=MLT-202607201718&user=bWlrZWNobWllbDYxQGdtYWlsLmNvbTptbHQ&utm_source=MLT-nl_military-report_2026-07-20&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=MLT-202607201718&user=bWlrZWNobWllbDYxQGdtYWlsLmNvbTptbHQ

"Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons."

General MacArthur

New VA Trial of MDMA Psychedelic for PTSD: What Veterans Need to Know

The trial is real, and it is a meaningful step. It is also, by design, small, tightly controlled, and years away from producing results.

https://www.military.com/health-wellness/veterans-health-care/new-va-trial-of-mdma-psychedelic-for-ptsd-what-veterans-need-to-know?lid=d16km7koas4c&utm_source=MLT-nl_marines_vi_2026-07-07&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=MLT-202607072101&user=bWlrZWNobWllbDYxQGdtYWlsLmNvbTptbHQ&utm_source=MLT-nl_marines_vi_2026-07-07&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=MLT-202607072101&user=bWlrZWNobWllbDYxQGdtYWlsLmNvbTptbHQ

Whole Health and Veterans Wellness Department:

by Consuela Gregory

The Central Virginia Veterans Healthcare System offers Tai Chi/ Qigong and Yoga practices through the Whole Health and Veterans Wellness Department.

Tai Chi is a mind-body practice that combines Qigong principles with martial arts in combining slow, intentional movements coordinated with breathing, awareness, and visualization. Regular practice of Tai Chi / Qigong may help improve relaxation, focus, strength, balance and coordination, flexibility, and overall mood and wellbeing.

Yoga is a mind-body practice that combines physical postures, breathing techniques, and meditation. Regular practice of Yoga may improve flexibility, balance, core strength, range of motion, and relaxation while promoting overall wellbeing.

These practices are offered virtually to Veterans throughout the CVVHCS, and are offered in-person at the Fredericksburg Veterans Healthcare Center.

If you are interested in participating in either of these programs through Whole Health, please contact CVVHCS Whole Health Department at (804) 675-6870. Before enrollment, you will be scheduled for a one-time virtual Whole Health Movement Education group session where you will be able to receive additional information on Whole Health programming, discuss your goals, learn more about how to prepare for group participation, and answer any questions you may have. Whole Health Movement Education Groups are held virtually on Mondays at 6pm, and Fridays at 11am.

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Supervisory Recreation Therapist
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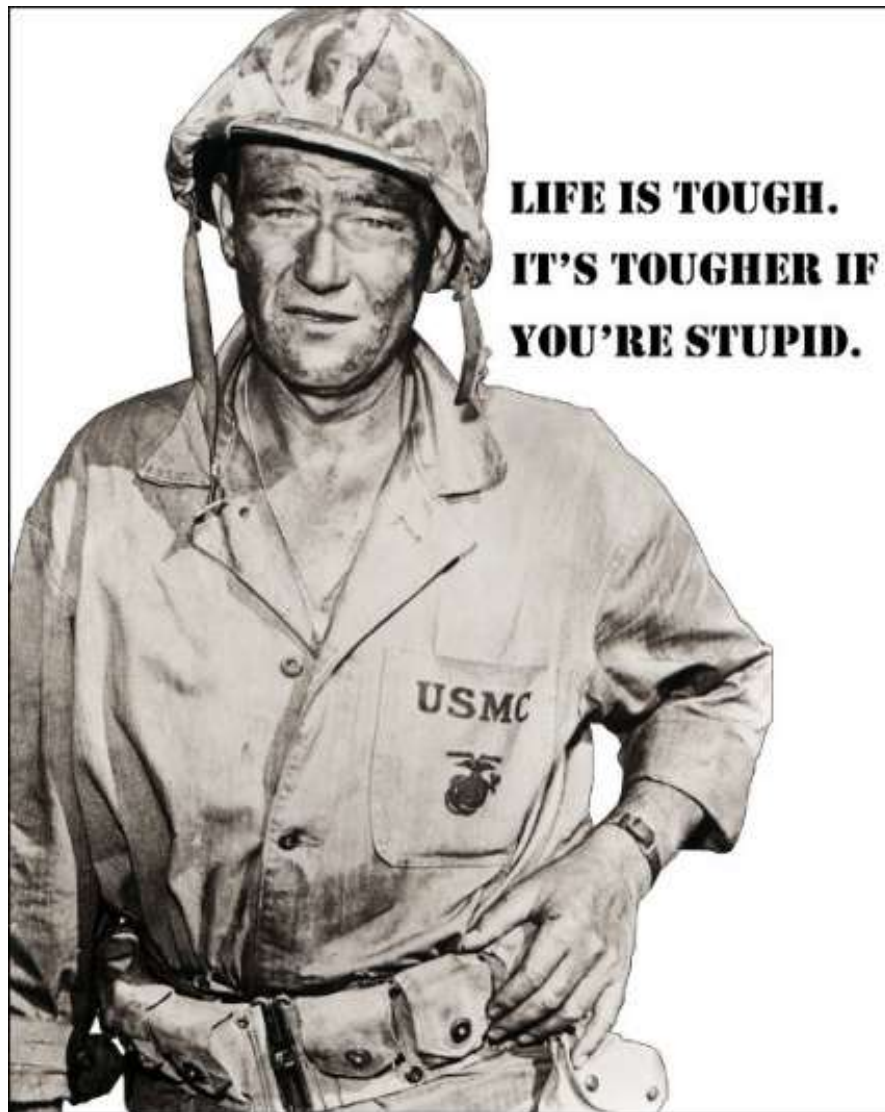


<https://publicaffairs-sme.com/Community/veterans/#062326MilitaryDotCom>

Recognition for Young Marine Sgt. Faith Clevenger at the 15 August Meeting:

by Virgil Young, Young Marine (YM) Liaison

YM Faith Clevenger has written a monthly column about the activities of the LCpl Caleb John Powers YM Unit for our detachment newsletter since September 2024. Faith graduated from high school in May and, as a result, she has to leave the Young Marines. She will be a freshman at Germanna Community College this fall. We have invited her and her parents, Linda and Marty Clevenger, to come to our detachment meeting on 15 August for a short ceremony at the beginning of the meeting so that we can recognize Faith for her contribution to our newsletters over the last 2 years. YM Lucas Hughes will be taking over writing the newsletter columns from YM Clevenger, and we have also invited YM Hughes and his parents to our meeting so that he can introduce himself to our detachment members. We hope that YM Unit Commander Kirk Ross will be able to attend as well, although the unit will be doing fundraising at a local grocery store that day for a veterans' charity organization.



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.

Name, Final Rank	Date	Survived By	Internment
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