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◦ Winter | ◦ 2011 |

# The Colorado Scuttlebutt



*The Department of Colorado, MCL & MCLA Quarterly Newsletter*

League's website: [www.mcleaguecolorado.com](http://www.mcleaguecolorado.com) Auxiliary's Website: [www.mcladepotofcolorado.org](http://www.mcladepotofcolorado.org)

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## Final notice!!!!

### Attention all Detachment Commandants and Adjutant/Paymasters!!

While you still have your June 30 Detachment roster handy (hopefully), verify the life members on the roster, certify that all listed were alive on June 30 or make corrections, and sign the roster (both the Commandant and Adjutant/Paymaster), and send it to the Department Paymaster for submission to Nat'l. HQ (per instructions from Nat'l HQ). This will qualify your Detachment to receive the annual life member distribution check next year. There is no reason to postpone this

submission until the end of the year deadline. Changes subsequent to June 30 have no bearing on this process and waiting can only make this more difficult if not completely forgotten, losing potential income.

Don't delay, do it today!!

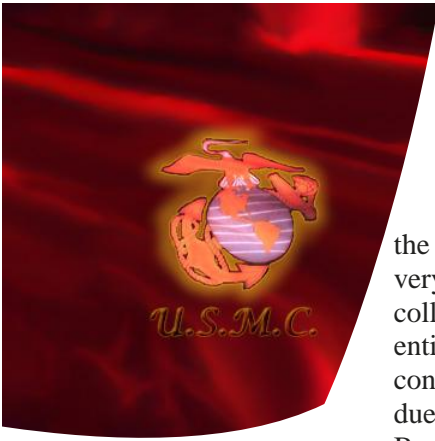
*Barry Georgopulos*

Barry Georgopulos, HPNC  
Department Paymaster



### Calling All Detachments, Units, and Subsidiaries!!

Do you have an upcoming event? News you want to share with other detachments, units and subsidiaries? What better outlet to inform everyone than this newsletter!!! Keep your Articles short as it is to accommodate all Detachment's, Unit's and Subsidiaries. See the "Attention on Deck" page to find out where to send the articles to.



# Dept Commandant's Message

By Mike Dighero

## Marines, Associates and Members:

The 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Marine Corps was one to be remembered. We had several festivities throughout the State of Colorado and they were all excellent events. I hope that each and every one had the chance to attend at least one Ball. It would be a good idea if we try and bring a few of these events together next year and make one big Marine Corps Ball for all to celebrate together.

I would like to recognize Jerry Pino, Commandant of the Home of Hero's Detachment in Pueblo, Colorado for having had an excellent fund raising dinner at the University of Colorado at Pueblo. The Home of Hero's Detachment raised a substantial amount of money for the Vietnam Memorial which is located on the Campus in Pueblo. Who would have thought forty three years after the original concept of this Memorial, that it would be finished with the support of an overwhelming majority on this college campus. The Memorial will honor the 623 Coloradoan's who paid the ultimate price for our freedom and died in

the Vietnam War. I am very proud of the collective work that this entire Detachment made to contribute to this very past due Honor for our fallen Brothers & Sisters. Job well done Home of Hero's.

The last Staff meeting in Greely was a true success. A very big Thank-You to Commandant Mark Kauffman from Union Colony for a wonderful lunch and excellent meeting. My best wishes to all who received awards. The Department of Colorado Staff wishes to extend a heartfelt Thank-You to all Detachments for your hard work this last year. I do need to remind the Commandants of each Detachment that if you are absent from the Staff meetings, it is your responsibility to forward me your quarterly report. Participation and attendance from all Detachments are mandatory for all Staff meetings. Detachment Staff are expected to show up and in the future those who do not attend will host the next Staff meeting by **DEFAULT**.

We now enter into the Holiday season. This is a time when we reengage our families and close friends. Please remember all our brave young men and women who are

engaged in battle and are stationed far from home. If you have the means, please send them a card or package. Let's make sure that they are not forgotten. We also need to take care of our own Brothers and Sisters who may need some Holiday cheer this season. If you have Detachment members who need help or assistance, please remember them during the Holidays. It is my wish to have a world at peace during this season. May the good Lord bless each one of you and yours until we meet again. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a very blessed and happy New Year to you all.

Semper Fidlis,

*Mike Dighero*

**I've always been proud of being a Marine. I won't hesitate to defend the Corps.**

**Jonathan Winters,  
comic and Marine**

## LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES



\* With a knowledge of yourself and your knowledge of group behavior, you can determine the best way to deal with any given situation. In dealing with membership in certain situations, you may have to be firm, however in many scenarios you may have to use the Big Brother approach. . . **But you must keep one thing in mind . . . you are dealing with VOLUNTEERS.**

\* In your capacity as a Detachment or Department officer, do not hesitate to ask for advice from those that have been there and done that . . . It will show that you have not put yourself above them.

\* Make an honest evaluation of yourself to determine your strong qualities and your weak points.

\* Strive to overcome any deficiencies that you may have.

\* Seek the honest opinions of your friends and superiors to show you how to improve your leadership abilities.

\* Learn by studying the cause for failure or success of other leaders.

\* You should promote initiative, enthusiasm, loyalty and convictions.

\* Be alert to stop the spread of rumors by replacing them with the truth.

# Adjutant's Call

By Fred Krebs

Marines

I hope all of you have filed your 990N Postcard for the Leagues fiscal year which ended 30 June 2011 with the IRS. The filing was due by 15 November, 2011. Failure to comply could result in your EIN being revoked and losing your non-profit status.

Reminder, effective January 1, 2012, the Secretary of State will no longer mail reminder notices for your corporate filing. I know that each of you have filing dates throughout the Year. Please make a reminder note when your filing is due. From past experience, a late filing can cost you more than \$10.00 when you file online.

The Paymaster has reminded you to file your PLM Rebate Certification. Remember: No Certification, NO check from National!

Many of you still not providing ZIP+4 on your transmittals! As this is required by National. You can have the member check his/her junk mail as they always get it right. Or you can go to [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) and obtain this information. This little feature will ensure that your snail mail will move at a faster pace and keep National happy.

If any of your members wish to pay life membership dues, their Date of Birth must be included on the transmittal.

Semper Fi

*Fred Krebs*



## Notes from the Department Webmaster

Marines, Auxiliary Members

Few detachments and units are sending me a list their Detachment & Unit Officers. Without this information a potential member won't know who to contact for your Detachment or Unit, as many prefer to use email as their form of communication. The Department website is a great recruiting tool not only for the Department but for your Detachment and Unit as well.

This brings up another topic related to the Website and the Newsletter. It all boils down to the hated word: "COMMUNICATION" or lack there of. I have sent out emails to certain folks, you know who you are, seeking information, and they have not responded at all. All I ask is a quick note letting me know that you're working on the situation and will send the information at a later date. Not hearing from you at all is very frustrating. Please keep this in mind when you receive an email from any officer within this Department. Respond to the email in a timely manor.

Happy Holidays!

*Meg Krebs*

Webmaster

# Department President's Message



By Janice Miller

The holidays are just around the corner. This year has pasted by so fast.

I would like to thank the ladies of Frank J Carroll Unit. For the help and support for the Women Marines Association 5K Run and Walk on September 24, 2011 at the Aurora Reservoir. The Dept. of Colo. bought the fruit for the runners. Thanks ladies great work.

Loveland Sweetheart Unit had a pancake breakfast at Applebee's on October 1, 2011 they made about \$200.00 Good job.

I would like to thank the Union Colony Detachment for hosting the Staff meeting on October 22, 2011 in Greeley. Ladies I was so happy to have twenty ladies attend at the Dept. meeting. We had four new members join Frank J. Carroll Unit. We had Installation of Officers for three Units: Frank J Carroll, Foothills, Northern Co. Ladies don't forget the challenge for most new members in your Unit you can win a quilt to auction off to make money for your Unit.

We are going to have a Fundraiser for the Dept of Colo. At Russell Stover 7705 Wadsworth Blvd. Arvada Co. December 10, 2011 10:00 a.m. -6:00 p.m. We get 10% of everything sold in the store that day. Please come out do some Christmas shopping that day. Help the Dept of Colo make some funds. Units if you have a newsletter please pass the word. The next Department Staff meeting will be hosted by the Home of Heroes Detachment in Pueblo, Co. on February 25, 2012. I would like to see lots of ladies there. The ladies there want to start a new unit. Come and support these ladies.

We have done fun things this month. The Department of Colo. Was in the Veterans Day Parade Nov. 5, 2011 in downtown Denver. The Marine Corp Ball in Loveland that Union Colony hosted. We had twelve at the Ball from Frank J. Carroll it was a great ball. Happy 236 Birthday Marines.

Have a great Thanksgiving with our families and friends. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Semper Fidelis*

*Janice Miller*



## *Department of Colorado, MCL Scholarship Fund Donation Card*

*Yes, I would like to invest in the Future of Young People  
From Colorado Who are affiliated with the Marine Family!*

[ ] ..... \$20.00 [ ] ..... \$50.00 [ ] ..... \$100.00 [ ] ..... \$500.00 (Corporate)

Donator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donator Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donors are invited to the Scholarship Luncheon/Meeting on Friday of the Department Convention.

Make Checks/Money Orders Payable to: **DoCo Scholarship**

Hand in or Mail to Bob Cowan, PO BOX 27151, Denver, CO 80227-0151

**DONATE TODAY!!**

# *From the Colorado Pack Dog Robber*



Woof, Woof All you Dogs in doggie kingdom!

Devil Dogs of the Colorado Pack:

It's time to start looking at your Detachments and see who is qualified to become a Member of the Order. With 600 + members of the League and only a 200 + Devil Dogs it's time we get new Members. We also need to get the current Membership to start coming to Growls, we need the Pass Port Fees to send to Kennel so as to make this next year's donation from the Kennel at the National Convention a large one. Also any Devil Dogs looking to advance to Pedigreed Devil Dog at the National Convention start making your arrangements for the Hotel, paper work done at Pound/Pack level and ensure you are at the National Convention on Sunday as to get the full rewards from the advancement. Please ensure all paper work is done and mailed in no later than June of next year, also have a copy of your advancement form with you. Bring big bones and look to have fun.

Woof, Woof,

*Tom Krueger*

CO Pack Dog Robber  
Vice Chief Devil Dog  
Rocky MTN Div



## Web Links

Marine Corps League –  
[www.mcleague.com](http://www.mcleague.com)  
Marine Corps League Auxiliary -  
[www.nationalmcla.org](http://www.nationalmcla.org)  
Military Order of Devil Dogs –  
[www.kennelmodd.org](http://www.kennelmodd.org)  
Military Order of Devil Dog Fleas  
[www.nationalmoddfleas.org](http://www.nationalmoddfleas.org)  
Rocky Mountain Division, MCL  
[www.mcleaguecolorado.com](http://www.mcleaguecolorado.com)  
Dept of Colorado, MCL-  
[www.mcldeptofcolorado.org](http://www.mcldeptofcolorado.org)  
Marines Helping Marines -  
[www.marineshelpingmarines.org](http://www.marineshelpingmarines.org)  
Women Marines Association CO-1  
<http://wmaco1.org/>  
Military Connection –  
[www.militaryconnection.com](http://www.militaryconnection.com)

## *Notes from the Awards Chairman*

Information on the 2012 Department of Colorado Awards will be sent out in the next couple of months. Start thinking about who you would like to nominate for Marine of the Year, Auxiliary Member of the Year, Pack Dog of the Year, other Pack Level Awards, Recruiter of the Year, and any other Department Level Awards.

Please note of the deadline within the information that will be sent for recommendations and/or nominations for these awards. Any that are submitted after the deadline will not be considered as it takes time for approval and putting together these awards.

*Meg Krebs*

Awards Chairman



# Around the Detachments & Units

**Pikes Peak Detachment** had another very active year. We are very proud of our many successes that we have accomplished during 2011. We take a great deal of pride in being awarded a National Jr. Vice Commandant Citation for exceeding our previous years recruiting efforts. This is the second year in a row that we were honored with this Recruiting Award. Much of the credit for our Recruiting success goes to our Past 2010 Commandant and our current Judge Advocate & Quarter Master Garry Gibson (The Gunny). He received a third place National Recruiting Award for recruiting 38 new members. This is the second year in a row that he has won a National Recruiting Award. We are very concerned with the Retention of current members. We will be working very closely with all members who are delinquent with their dues. In some cases we will be helping some financially, so they can remain valued members of our Detachment. Our Toys for Tots program is in full swing. We moved into our distribution center/storage building in early November. Please read our monthly newsletter for more information on our very successful Toys for Tots program. May you all have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy & Healthy New Year. **Semper FI** Jane Curtis, Commandant

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## THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS SANTA AND THE MARINE

'Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone, in a one bedroom home made only of stone. I had come down the chimney with presents to give, and to see just whom in this house did live. As I looked all about a strange sight I did see, no tinsel, no presents not even a tree. No stocking by the fire, just boots covered in sand, on the wall hung a picture of some far off land. With medals and badges and awards of all kind, a sobering thought did come to my mind. For this house was different, unlike any I've seen, for this is the home of a U.S. Marine. I'd heard stories about them, I had to see more, so I walked down the hall and opened a door. And there he lay sleeping, silent, alone, and curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home. He seemed so gentle, his face so serene, not how I pictured a U.S. Marine.

Could this be the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled in a poncho, a floor for his bed. His head was clean shaven, his weathered face tan, I soon realized this was more than just any man. I realized the families I'd visit this night, owed their lives to these people always ready to fight. In just a few hours all the children would play, and grownups would celebrate another Christmas day. They all enjoyed freedom each month and all year, because of Marines like the one lying here. I couldn't help but wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas Eve, in a land so far from home. Just the very thought brought a tear to my eye; I dropped to my knees and started to cry. He must have awakened for I heard a rough voice, "Don't cry Santa, for this is my choice. I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, my life is my God, my Country, my Corps."

With that he rolled over, drifted off into sleep, I couldn't control it, I continued to weep. I watched him for hours, so silent so still, then noticed he shivered from the cold night's chill. So I took off my jacket, the one made of red, and covered my hero, from his toes to his head. Then I put on his T-shirt of scarlet and gold, with eagle, globe and anchor, emblazoned so bold. Although it barely fit me, I swelled with pride, for this one private moment, I felt Marine deep inside. I didn't want to leave him so quiet in the night, this guardian of honor, willing to die in a fight. But half asleep he rolled over, in a voice clean and pure. Said "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day and all is secure." One look at my watch and I knew he was right, Merry Christmas my friend, Semper Fi, and good night.



**UNITED STATES MARINES YOUTH FOUNDATION, INC.**

8626 Lee Highway - Suite 201  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
(703) 207-9690 / (888) 876-2348  
Fax: (703) 207-0047  
[info@marineyouthfoundation.org](mailto:info@marineyouthfoundation.org)  
[www.MarineYouthFoundation.org](http://www.MarineYouthFoundation.org)



# Tree of Lights

Proceeds benefit  
**United States Marines Youth Foundation**

Each year, individual Marines, Marine Corps League Detachments (all across America) and Friends of the **United States Marines Youth Foundation**, can sponsor lights on the Christmas tree that is on display at the National Headquarters of the Marine Corps League in Fairfax, Virginia.

*Typically, lights are given:*

**In memory of fallen comrades or loved ones  
To honor troops, a family member, mentor, or friend  
As a year-end gift to help support the programs of the  
*United States Marine Youth Foundation***

As a light sponsor, your name (or the name of your organization) will be listed on a special **Scroll of Honor** to be displayed at the ceremony and to be posted here on this web site.

**Click [here](#) to see the Scroll.**

*\$500 Red Light  
\$100 Blue Light  
\$ 25 White Light*

*\$250 Gold Light  
\$ 50 Green Light  
\$ 10 Clear Light*

For information contact PNC Paul Hastings at (800) 747-1420 or  
[PHastings@MCLeague.org](mailto:PHastings@MCLeague.org)



**[Click here to securely donate to the Tree of Lights online](#)**



**The 2012 Department of Colorado, Marine Corps League, Convention**  
**Thursday, May 3rd to Sunday, May 6th**

Will be held at the

**Denver Airport Marriott**

16455 E. 40th Circle

Aurora, CO 80011

Telephone #303-371-4333 \* Facsimile #303-371-1668

Rooms will be \$99.00 per room - including two breakfasts, buffet style, per room per night. The Hotel is comprised of kings (one bedded rooms) and doubles (two bedded rooms). Guestrooms will be assigned based on availability by Hotel's reservation department. If a room type requested is not available, the next comparable room type will be reserved for the guest at the contracted group rate. Hotel's guestroom rates are subject to applicable state, local taxes (currently 12.85% per room per night) and room surcharges such as are in effect at time of check-in

Reservations can be made from today, 11/14/2011, by calling the hotel directly at:  
1-888-236-2427 and reference the Marine Corps League Convention.

An advance deposit is required to guarantee all reservations. All reservations must be received no later than 3:00 PM on 04/12/2012. Hotel will continue to accept reservations after the cut-off date, subject to availability at prevailing rates.

***SHIPPING & RECEIVING***

If it is necessary to ship materials to the Hotel prior to the event, please mark clearly and label as follows:

Denver Airport Marriott

16455 E. 40th Circle

Aurora, CO 80011

Hold For: Name of Guest, Name of Conference, Dates of Conference

Authorized packages or shipments will be accepted (2) days prior to the function date. Receiving, handling and shipping charges may apply. No COD packages will be accepted. The hotel policies on safe package handling are based on advice from the United States Postal Service (USPS) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

For further information please contact Foothills Detachment 469, MCL

Commandant - Andy Anderson [gysgtaanderson@aol.com](mailto:gysgtaanderson@aol.com)

Sr. Vice Commandant Mike Flos [MikeFlos@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeFlos@yahoo.com)

Jr. Past Commandant Ken Majeski [foothills\\_detachment@comcast.net](mailto:foothills_detachment@comcast.net)

**Additional Information will be posted on the Department Website when it becomes available!**

## 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday Ball in Loveland, Colorado

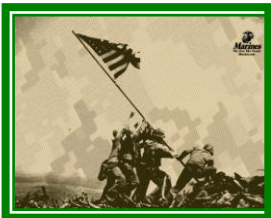
Pictures of the 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday Ball Hosted by the Union Colony Marines Detachment/Loveland Detachment in Loveland, CO on November 5, 2011. All had a great time. Thank you Janice Miller for submitting these photos!



# Veterans Day Ceremony

Photos from the Veterans Day Service at the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial in Golden, CO on November 12, 2011. We would like to thank Barry Georgopolos for being the MC, Robert J. Cowan as acting Chaplain, Foothills Young Marines, Buckley Field Young Marines, and all the Marine Divisions, as well as our MCLA Department President Janice Miller for being in attendance.





## *Attention on Deck*

### EMAIL ADDRESSES

If you did **NOT** receive this newsletter via email, it means your email is not on the Department roster or have changed email addresses. Please email Meg Krebs with your name and email address to better improve communications at: DoCoMCL\_Newsletters@msn.com. These newsletters will be sent only via email. Need Additional Copies of this newsletter? They can be found on our website.

### Articles and their due dates

Articles are due to me (that is in my hands, not in the mail) by the following dates: *Spring Edition: February 15<sup>th</sup>, Summer Edition: May 15<sup>th</sup>, Fall Edition: August 15<sup>th</sup>, Winter Edition: November 15<sup>th</sup>*. All articles are to be sent to this email address: **DoCoMCL\_Newsletters@msn.com** not to my regular email address, and in a **WORD Document format** all other formats will be rejected. Articles are to be of interest to all League, Auxiliary, Pack and Pound Members, not just one Detachment, Pack, Pounds and/or Unit or individual!! Please keep your articles short to accommodate for limited space!

## Mission Statement



Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. This is accomplished by banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service; voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines and former Marines and to their widows and orphans, and by perpetuating the history of the United States Marine Corps through fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

\*\*\*\*\*

***Incorporated by an act of Congress in 1937, the Marine Corps League perpetuates the traditions and spirit of ALL Marines who proudly wear or who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor of the Corps***

Detachment Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Det. No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Marine Corps League  
Department of Colorado  
41<sup>st</sup> Department Convention  
Aurora, Colorado  
Convention Dates: May 3 – May 6, 2012**



<b>FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE ONLY</b>	
Total Members:	_____
Total Delegates:	_____
Total Authorized Vote:	_____
Date Received:	_____

**TO:** Department Credentials Committee  
**VIA:** MCL Department of Colorado Paymaster  
Barry M. Georgopoulos  
740 South Alton Way #6B  
Denver, CO 80247

**Subj: Registration of Delegate(s) and Alternate(s)**  
**Ref: (A) Department Bylaws**

- In accordance with the reference, registration fee for the Department of Colorado Convention shall be Ten (\$10.00) dollars provided that such fee is accompanied by a properly executed Delegate/Alternate Form (this document). Advance registration fee shall be \$5.00. Those that do not register in advance cannot be guaranteed an Ad book and/or Goody bag as quantities may be limited. This completed Registration Form should be received no later than April 1, 2012.
- The following are the Detachment's delegate(s), alternate(s)

DEL	ALT	ASSOC MBR	DUAL MBR	Guest	Name(s)	6 Digit Membership No. (Not PLM)						Attending Yes / No	First Convention Yes / No
					1.								
					2.								
					3.								
					4.								
					5.								
					6.								
					7.								
					8.								
					9.								
					10.								

- Delegate strength is based on the number of regular members on the 31 December, 2011 Strength Report.
- Enclosed is a check (# \_\_\_\_\_) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to the **Department of Colorado, MCL** to cover registration fees for the above listed members.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Detachment Commandant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**TYPE OR PRINT DELEGATES/ALTERNETS CLEARLY**