



Buckeye Marine Newsletter

April 2017

Department of Ohio Marine Corps League

Upcoming Meetings

April 19, 2017
Purple Heart Homes, Northeast Ohio
Chapter Meeting
Time: 6pm
Cleveland, OH

June 8-11, 2017
Department of Ohio Convention
Akron, OH

August 13 - 18, 2017 Marine Corps
League National Convention
Overland Park, KS

August 27 - September 3, 2017 Khe Sanh
Veterans Reunion
Warrensville Heights, OH

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Hello Marines,

What a busy time of year this has been. Members and Officers of the Department have kept busy.

They have traveled to the January Department meeting in Newark Ohio, Mid-Winter National Staff Conference in Fredericksburg Virginia, the Department meeting Middleburg Hts. Ohio, and finally to the Central Division Conference in Richmond Indiana. Next will be the June Department Convention in Fairlawn, Ohio.

Your Department Officers and staff have been working hard to bring information up to date. This was accomplished through many phone calls, texts, emails, and USPS (snail mail). The Department needs accurate information coming from each Detachment. Forms need to be FILLED OUT COMPLETELY. No line should be left blank. That includes addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. How can the Department or National contact you if they do not know who or where you are? If you are not receiving information and you did not fill out a form completely then don't complain.

It is always great to see Marines you have met in the past and even better to make new friends. Most important is the sharing of information, whether in a class or in the Hospitality room. It's all good. No matter how many times you may have attended the same training class you will always take away something new or something you may have missed before.

The information learned at these meetings is vital to the operation of your Detachments and the Departments. There are many things happening at National and many changes to come. Commandant Gore and his staff have been working diligently to

cut operating costs, upgrade all systems, and improve the visibility of the Marine Corps League. With thousands of Marines moving in and out of Quantico, VA, the new MCL National Office just down the road will be visible. Marines will know about MCL when they get out NOT 30 or 40 years later.

The June Department Convention will be here soon. The Conference Packets have been mailed out to all Detachment Commandants. Commandants, it is your responsibility to share all the information with all members of your detachment. Fill out the Convention Delegate form with members that are coming to the convention. Register all of your Detachment members to increase your number of votes for the elections. You need to have at least one member present at the Convention to cast your Detachments votes. Remember, all delegates must be in good standing to have their vote count.

This year has gone by too quickly. Much has been accomplished. There is still more to accomplish. I have decided to run for office again as the Department Commandant. I have a good working relationship with my staff. It was with the help of my staff and all the members of the Department that I have grown into that leadership position. It is with a special, "Thank You" that I say that. As I've said from day one, "No one person has all the answers." It takes a core of dedicated people. A Corps of Marines.

Semper Fi and God Bless,

John

Marines,

At Mid-Winter Conference Department Commandant Harkness learned that National is still reeling from the aftermath of what has already happened. The short version is that despite the best efforts of those who struggle through this mere of madness each and every day, the equipment they thought they could rely on is failing them and by extension, failing us.

We can piss and moan all we want to about how things are screwed up but the reality is, it's not their fault. They have been working tirelessly to do the very best they can as you would expect any Marine to do. Just like Marines, they have held things together well beyond the expected life and capability. Some of us will remember the conversion from 14's to Mattel's it wasn't easy but in the end it has evolved into what it is today. For those that don't know what I'm talking about you can get some personal stories at your next Detachment meeting, and even share one or two of your own.

Division Vice Commandants who have not received the Detachment Visitation Report need to contact me immediately. The completed reports for each Detachment within your jurisdiction will be required at the 2017 Convention. If you need any assistance do not hesitate to contact me. If your attempts to contact a Detachment have failed, note the report with the date(s) and time(s) of attempted contact. National will use the report

information to take whatever action they deem necessary. Failing to report looks like you aren't trying and that doesn't help anyone. Reporting provides the information and necessary evidence for any action National may need and must take. If you believe your contact info is outdated, contact either myself or the Commandant. Commandant Harkness has written to every Detachment and almost all have responded, so we may have new information for you to use.

Finally, there are more than one of two detachments that have or will discover there are problems they need help in resolving. As much as I understand and rely on the chain of command, it's also important for every Marine within our Department and the Marine Corps League National to know if you think something needs addressing. It's your responsibility to let one of us know. Even if you want to ask a question to a faceless entity over the phone I am offering to be a source for you and if necessary be your advocate. In this instance if you wish to remain anonymous you can, as long as you leave a voicemail message on my phone I will call you back usually within a day or two, but you must leave a message. I stopped calling hang ups a long time ago because they were usually scammers looking for a quick mark. I close with this, the only stupid question is the one never asked, don't be stupid.

Semper Fi
Thom

Sr. Vice Commandant | Mike Kirk

Article Not Submitted

Jr. Vice Commandant | Don Wojciechowski

Marines,

As spring is now upon us, there will be more activity with the nicer weather. I've also noticed that even with the up and down weather of the past winter a lot of you are active. I've talked to Marines who have traveled a few counties away, no detachments nearby. These Marines drove several counties to bury a fallen brother. You

know what now? There's interest in the area to start a detachment. Let's all keep up the good work of spreading the word about who we are. If we stay on point together, we can build a stronger Department. Until I see you all at the convention, Semper Fi.

Don

Judge Advocate | Paul R. Tuggey

Marines,

I want to thank those Detachments who have already responded to my previous data request. For those who have not, let me reiterate what information was requested.

Please send me a copy of your latest Detachment By-Laws and Judge Advocate contact information to either my e-mail: prtoh@roadrunner.com or mail a hard copy to 3086 Lincoln Blvd, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118-2068.

I will scan it and send it back to your JA electronically.

My cell phone number is (216) 952-2884.

Semper Fidelis

Paul R. Tuggey

Adjutant | Don Dearth

Marines,
I'm still trying to compile and gather Department Records. You can contact me at 304-481-9595, email me at marine1don@outlook.com or mail to: 2024 Oak Grove Ext. Rd. St. Marys, WV 26170.

Most Ohio Detachments have either already held their elections or are getting ready too. Once the Officers are sworn in you need to fill out your ROI and mail it to me at address listed above or electronically. This information needs to be forwarded to MCL National. All Detachment Commandant's need to send their Detachment's

Quarterly reports to me if they are unable to attend our meetings. Remember to file your 990 and state incorporation reports as soon as you can. Once you've filed these reports please send me verification and copies of each. IRS is going to crack down on Detachments that do not adhere to the laws. You need to make your reservations as soon as possible for the June Convention in Fairlawn, Ohio. I hope to see everyone at this meeting.

Semper Fi Marines

Jr. Past Commandant | Frank Gron

Marines,

I was reaching into my refrigerator when I noticed the "best used by" date on a product. I started thinking about the life of things and that lead to me thinking about life, my life.

I know that there are more than a few people who wouldn't consider me a friend, and that's ok. I learned a long time ago that you can admire and respect someone without falling in love with them. Drill Instructors come to mind. We all hated them, despised them, wanted to kill and gut them until we reached that moment when their dedication to duty kept us alive, and not only us, but the buddy next to us that has been a lifelong friend. I guess understanding that you don't have to like me or how I do things, as long as the things I do help us all was developed into a skill as a Marine.

We all only have so many days, hours, and minutes and when they are used up there won't be anymore. And more often than not we know of something that we could do to make things a little better where we are, but we don't do them because we are afraid of what some people may think of us. Or it's an unpopular action amongst

some and we just don't want the drama in our life. Everything has a cycle of life and when we don't act on things we know in our gut to be the best thing to do, others will suffer because of it. Just like that Drill Instructor who pushed us beyond what we knew we could in boot camp to make us a Marine. That's what conditioned us all to be leaders and real leaders have a responsibility to do what is best regardless of what others may think of us. Every Marine, every Veteran that served during Viet Nam knows that fact better than most.

My point is this, don't let your Best Used By date pass you by. Make a difference, do something, even if it isn't popular. If you know it's right let the world know and why. Hang onto your ground like a position you held in the Marines. Because just as then, people now are depending on you. The reason Marines are sent all over the world is simply this, when you are a Marine, you are expected to make a difference. Be a Marine.

Semper Fi

PDC Frank Gron

Department Paymaster | Thom Seymour

Marines,

This may or may not be news to you, but there are many of us who need help in getting things back on track for our Detachments. The past several months have been spent researching the EIN / TIN status of all Ohio Detachments as well as maintaining our required active status with the Ohio Secretary of State's Office and obedience to Marine Corps League National Bi Laws. Some Detachments have been doing an outstanding job. Others, and I'm guessing because they were never informed of the requirements, have not, as evidenced by some conversations I have had with Detachment Paymasters.

Currently, National is working with the IRS to help us all get our act together, but for some of us that may require a financial investment for reinstatement. Those that have fallen into the revoked status with the IRS and Ohio SOS, have no choice but to do what we must, to get it right. The alternative could and mostly will be losing your Charter. We want to do everything to keep that from happening BUT, the things that are required per IRS, Ohio Secretary of State, and National Bi Laws must be accomplished. It will be up to the Detachment Leadership to get it done. That is why Department Commandant John Harkness has been reaching out to every Detachment requesting updated and current information.

If you have any questions regarding your status at any level call or write me. I should mention at this point that my phone is set to ring long enough to avoid telemarketers, scammers, and the like so when it starts ringing you have to wait for the voice mail response to leave a message. Hang in there as soon as you leave a message it will alert my cell phone. If I don't call you back in 24 hours assume the system failed and call again. Remember it's not a perfect world that's why it needs Marines in it.

Also, because my email address is published on more than one website I must know who you are so in the first line of your message list your Name and Detachment. Otherwise your email will get buried with all the Russian, Asian, and European women who love me so desperately, or the African princes and prime ministers that want to make me rich just for sharing a little bit more about myself. Oh, and by the way, if you receive an email from me offering to make you rich, I'm not and it's not me, so you can delete that one immediately. The same holds true if I try to hook you up with a Russian, Asian, or European women. Simply put, I'm married and from time to time I wake up with bruises I didn't fall asleep with and I don't want to even imagine what she would do to me if any other woman was involved. She may not be a Marine but she married one and she learns quick.

Semper Fi
Thom

Chaplain | Dave Yehl

Marines,

During the Passover season, we commemorate the sacrifice of Christ by crucifixion to protect our souls from sin. As we celebrate Memorial Day,

may we always remember the sacrifice of those who gave their lives to protect our freedoms.

Faithfully,

Dave

Sergeant - at - Arms | Rick Pethtel

Article Not Submitted

Historian | Chris Dearth

Marines,

As the Historian for the Department of Ohio, I'm still working towards acquiring any of the old records for the Department of Ohio. If you print a Newsletter in your Detachment, please send me an electronic copy at dearthian@hotmail.com or mail me a hard copy to Chris Dearth, 2024 Oak Grove Ext. Rd, St. Marys, WV 26170. I want to include as many of them as possible in our history books. I will be attending the June Convention so if you

have anything that's relevant to the History of Ohio Marine Corps League and or it's detachments please bring a copy of it with you. If you have any material that you believe should be included in our history, please get the information to me. Please help me to compile and document our history.

Semper Fi Marines!

Veteran Service Officers

The 990-EZ has been filed with the IRS, the Errors and Omissions Insurance

has been renewed and the Veterans Services Program is in good standing.

Respectfully,

Dave Yehl, Treasurer

Devil Dogs

First, I'm stepping down as Ohio Pack Dog Robber after this Grand Growl of Ohio at this year's Department Convention. We need someone to step up and volunteer to become our new Pack Dog Robber. See Ellen Leidy for more information.

All Pups in our pack are eligible to advance to Devil Dog at the Growl at the Department Convention if they have a year as a Pup and have paid dues before December 31, 2016.

All Devil Dogs are eligible to advance to Pedigree Devil Dog at the National Convention in Overland Park, Kansas if you have a year as a Devil Dog.

All members interested in advancing must contact me as soon as possible so paperwork can be filled out and sent to the Kennel. Please contact me at 440- 427-1912. Leave your Name and Detachment on my answering machine if I'm not home.

Thank you all for your cooperation in this matter.

We have active pounds # 156 Montezuma/Cincinnati (meets in Cincinnati area), # 164 Northeast Ohio (meets in Medina), # 190 Diamond Devil Dogs (meets in Toledo area), # 241 Dayton (meets in the Dayton area) and # 282 Kalinowski's K-9 Raiders.

We have great times at our Growls at our Department meetings and I hope all of you will make a greater effort to attend. Remember most of our funds go to the Children's Hospital or Ward.

We hope more members of the Marine Corps League will become members of the order.

PDD Chuck Kiessling,

Ohio Pack Dog Robber MODD

Youth Committee | Ron Kiessling

The Department "YOUTH COMMITTEE" continues to support groups of young people up to age 18 for their Moral and Physical values. The Committee awarded a Grant and rejected one, at the Spring Meeting. The Grant awarded was to the Newark High School AFJROTC. We presented \$8,024 to organizations in Grants since we have been giving Grants. We have received requests for 25 Grants and awarded 20 Grants.

The Youth Committee is always ready to award Grants for worthy organizations. Has your Detachment encouraged Youth Groups in your area to apply for funds (a Grant) needed by them for a purpose to support their organization? The Youth Committee Funds available to support donations (Grants) to youth groups but they do have to apply to the Department of Ohio, MCL for the support. Boy Scout Troops may need tents, a Boys' & Girls'

Choir may need music, a Young Marines organization needs funds for a trailer to move their equipment, the list could go on forever, but it starts with that application. At Youth Committee meetings, the committee decides on grants but they need the request before the meeting.

Look at the Department Website for the process. Send the request for a Grant by mail to PDC Ellen Leidy, 1107 Columbus Avenue, Barberton, OH 44203-6929 or email leidyrn@aol.com. Remember, send the request in before May 15, 2017 for the Convention Meeting. The Grants are only awarded at Department Meetings.

The next meeting of the Youth Committee will be at the Department Convention meeting on June 9, 2017 at 8:00 am at the Holiday Inn, 4073 Medina Road, Akron, OH 44333.



Department of Ohio Marine Corps League Auxillary

Department President | Lynn Harkness

Ladies,

We now have National Mid-Winter meeting, Department of Ohio Spring meeting, and Central Division meeting behind us. It is time to turn to Unit elections and Department of Ohio June Convention for Department elections.

I was really impressed with Girls Inc. that we donated our gifts to at Central Division. We have two Girls Inc. in Ohio. They work with girls to empower them, to learn their strengths, and give them confidence. It sounds like a wonderful organization to be a part of.

We have our usual raffle at June Convention. If you haven't sent in your raffle ticket money you still have time. Of course, you can also do that at our meeting. Dress code for Saturday meeting will be Unit shirt if you have one, and those that have the uniform of navy slacks and white blouse please wear. The most important thing is your cover ladies. Friday is street casual, but no shorts.

The call to Conference packet will be coming out around April 21st. It will contain the agenda, floor plan of hotel, strip ticket, delegate sheets and the

Presidents call to Conference letter. Please read and send in the sheets to the person noted on the bottom of the form as soon as possible.

Ladies we have a really good team at National. They all firmly believe that the Unit is the base for the Auxiliary and we are not a top down organization. I was able to speak with President Karen Aune at Central Division. She is very easy to talk to and more than willing to answer any questions you might have. Central Division was informative but we didn't have the meet and great time, which I missed.

This is the end of my second year and it has been a very enjoyable and busy year. I have enjoyed visiting each Unit and working with detachments that are hoping to start a Unit. Debbie Evans should have her Charter for the Land of Legends by August Convention. It was nice having her two Granddaughters at the March meeting in Middleburg Hts. They had a good time and they are excited about being involved with the Auxiliary.

Thank you for your support and all you do at your individual units.

Up-Coming Events & Information

April 19, 2017 Purple Heart Homes, Northeast Ohio Chapter Meeting

Time: 6pm

Location: PLAV Pulaski Post #30
1041 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113

For more information, call: 216-952-2884

June 8 - 11, 2017 Department of Ohio Convention

Holiday Inn

4073 Medina Road

Akron, Ohio 44333

Phone: 330-666-4131

Group Name: Marine Corps League

Group Room Rate: \$99.00 + Tax per room
(2 breakfast buffets per room)

Hotel must receive reservation by May 13, 2017. Thereafter, reservations will be taken on a space and rate availability basis. Call the hotel and mention Marine Corps League to get this rate. Booking online may not give you this rate and will not give the Department credit for your stay.

Convention forms can be found at: <http://mclohio.org>

August 13 - 18, 2017, 2017 Marine Corps League National Convention

Overland Park, Kansas

Website: <http://www.2017mclnationalconvention.com>

Chase Suites Hotel

Group Code: MARCOR

Phone Reservations: 1-913-491-3333 \$99.00 / Night 1 Bed (30 rooms available) \$115.00 / Night 2 Beds (5 rooms available)

Courtyard Convention Center-Overland Park Phone Reservations: 1-800-321-2211

\$115.00 / Night 2 Beds (25 rooms available)

Hilton Garden Inn

Phone Reservations: 1-844-317-5096

August 27 - September 3, 2017 Khe Sanh Veterans Reunion

Cleveland Marriott East

26300 Harvard Road

Warrensville Heights, OH 44122

Phone: 216-378-9194

Rates: \$109.00 + tax per day

Website: <http://khesanh.org>

**MCL CONVENTION SCHEDULE 2017
78th OHIO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
MARINE COPRS LEAGUE & AUXILIARY**

Thurs. 8 June 2017

1600-1800	Registration	Table/ Lobby
1830-1915	MCL Staff Meeting	Maple Room
1930-???	Hospitality/Social	Maple Room

Friday 9 June 2017

0800-1700	Registration	Lobby
0800-0850	Youth Meeting	Ballroom A
0900-0950	Commandants' Council	Ballroom A
0900-0950	PDC Meeting	Maple Room
1000-1130	Training	Ballroom A
1000-1130	VAD/VSO Meeting	Maple Room
1130-1300	LUNCH on your own	
1300-1325	Joint Opening MCL/MCLA	Ballroom A
1330-1630	MCL Business Meeting	Ballroom A
1330-1630	MCLA Business Meeting	Maple Room
1730-1900	PC's/PP's Dinner	Restaurant
1900-2100	Devil Dog Growl	Ballroom A
1900-2100	Flea/PP Meeting	Maple Room
2100-???	Hospitality/Social	

Saturday 10 June 2017

0700-0830	Devil Dog Initiation	Ballroom A
0800-1200	Registration	Lobby
0900-0945	Memorial Services	Outside/Ballroom A
1000-1200	MCL Business Meeting	Ballroom A
1000-1200	MCLA Business Meeting	Maple Room
1200-1330	LUNCH on your own	
1330-1600	MCL Business Meeting	Ballroom A
1330-1600	MCLA Business Meeting	Maple Room
1800-1900	Cocktails-cash bar	Ballroom A
1900-2030	Banquet	Ballrooms A
2030-2055	Guest Speaker	
2055-2130	Installation MCL/MCLA Officers	
2130-???	Hospitality/Social	Maple Room

SUNDAY 11 June 2016

0900-1100	MCL Trustees Meeting	Maple Room
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Hotel Reservation Information
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
AND
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY

June 8, 9, 10 and 11, 2017
Holiday Inn
4073 Medina Road
Akron, Ohio 44333
Phone: 330-666-4131

Department Meeting Attendance Information

Group Name: Marine Corps League

Group Room Rate: \$99.00 + Tax per room

(2 breakfast buffets per room)

Hotel must receive reservation by May 13, 2017. Thereafter, reservations will be taken on a space and rate availability basis. Call the hotel and mention Marine Corps League to get this rate. Booking online may not give you this rate and will not give the Department credit for your stay.

Name: _____

Detachment Name and Number _____

Name: _____

Auxiliary Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip _____

Arrival Date: _____ Overnight Yes___ No___

Departure Date: _____ Daytime Yes___ No___

After you make your reservations please fill out this form and mail it in. If you are not staying at the hotel but plan to attend the meeting, please fill out this form and mail it in.

Send to Chief of Staff: Thomas Seymour
 8300 Munson Road
 Mentor, Ohio 44060-2409

Department of Ohio Marine Corps League Officers 2016-2017

Commandant

John Harkness

4345 Hamilton Rd.
Medina, OH 44256-9089
H: 330-722-7166
C: 216-215-8810
Email: nusinc@msn.com
Detachment: Medina County #569

Sr. Vice Commandant

Mike Kirk

1066 Elizabeth Circle
Heath, Ohio 43056
Phone: 740-323-0681
Email: mlkirk46@hotmail.com
Detachment: Licking County #602

Jr. Vice Commandant

Don Wojciechowski

1603 Maple Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43229-5219
Phone: 614-438-6867
Email: donwoj64@aol.com
Detachment: Belleua Woods #508

Judge Advocate

Paul Tuggey

3086 Lincoln Blvd.
Cleveland Hts., Ohio 44118-2068
Phone: 216-952-2884
Email: prtoh@roadrunner.com
Detachment: Cleveland Police #1410

Jr. Past Department Commandant Frank Gron

9679 Old Johnnycake Ridge Road
Concord Township, Ohio 44060-6520 P
Home: 440-223-8257
Email: frankgron42@gmail.com
Detachment: Col. Justice M. Chambers #555

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Detachment: Col. Justice M. Chambers #555

Sergeant-at-Arms

Rick Pethtel

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Email: PAR6@ZOOMINTERNET.NET
Detachment: Medina County #569

Historian

Chris Dearth

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Phone: 304-893-8919
Email: dearthian@hotmail.com

Department of Ohio Marine Corps League Officers 2016-2017

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700 McDowell St. NE
N. Canton, Ohio 44721-3129 Phone: 330-806-8620
Email: lewayusmc@gmail.com

2nd Year Trustee

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2 Year VAD

Pete Kazakis

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3 Year VAD

Dave Yehl

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Department of Ohio Division Vice Commandants 2016-2017

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Gary Evans

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Phone: 740-343-4318
Email: grandus6@yahoo.com

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Vacant

NC Vice Commandant John Marks

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SE Vice Commandant:

Don Dearth

2024 Oak Grove Extra Rd
Saint Marys, WV 26170
Phone: 304-481-9595
Email: marine1don@outlook.com

Department of Ohio Devil Dog Officers 2016 - 2017

Pack Leader

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1107 Columbus Ave.
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Email: leidyrun@aol.com

Sr. Vice Pack Leader

PDD Michael Kirk

Jr. Vice Pack Leader

DD Gary Evans

Smart Dog

PDD Ronald Kiessling

Dog Trainer

DD John Harkness

Mad Dog

DD Thomas Seymour

Police Dog

PDD Darrell Logan

Watch Dog

Mike Curtis

Dog Robber

PDD Chuck Kiessling

Department of Ohio Marine Corps League Auxiliary Officers 2016 - 2017

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Secretary / Treasurer

PDP Linda Davis

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Captain of the Guard

Marsha Van Valkenburg

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Ways & Means Chair Denise Marx

Volunteerism Chair

PDP Judy Logan

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Historian

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Laurel Seiner

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Convention Liaison

Lynn Harkness

Phone: 330-722-7166



Marines,
Thank you again for all the persons who contributed to the April 2017 edition of the Buckeye Marine. The continued success depends on you, the Department of Ohio Marine Corps League Officers.

This is my last Buckeye Marine Newsletter. As of June 2017, I will be stepping down from all Department of Ohio Marine Corps League positions including The Buckeye Marine, Facebook, Email, and Public Relations. Please direct questions or concerns to Thom Seymour, Chief of Staff. I wish you all the best of luck and success in the future. It was a pleasure meeting everyone and volunteering with you for the past three years. To Frank Gron and Thom Seymour, thank you.

A special thanks to Marine Timothy Gay, my father, who taught me the importance of our military, our veterans, and volunteering from a young age. My father instilled the core values of the USMC. Thank you to my mother and father for always teaching me and instilling integrity, compassion, and strength. To live life with passion, purpose, and drive to never give up. I carry these values with me daily. I'm eternally grateful for having you both as my parents.

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