

# THE JARHEAD REVIEW



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA  
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

DECEMBER 2025

[WWW.MCLDEPTOFGA.ORG](http://WWW.MCLDEPTOFGA.ORG)

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Governor Brian Kemp, accompanied by First Lady Marty Kemp, joined the Department of Veteran Services to commemorate the 250th birthday of the United States Marine Corps. The event celebrated the proud history, traditions, and accomplishments of the Corps. Representing the Marine Corps League, Judge Advocate Getzie Lamar was in attendance, joining fellow Marines in paying tribute to this historic milestone.

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**MCL Department of Georgia Website:**  
[mcldeptofga.org](http://mcldeptofga.org)

**Southeast Division Website:**  
<https://sediv.org>

**MCL National Website:**  
[www.mcleaguelibrary.org](http://www.mcleaguelibrary.org)

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### JANUARY

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### FEBRUARY

- 7** DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY MEETING
- 26-28** National Midwinter Conference  
Pentagon City, VA

### MARCH

- 4-8** 79th MCL Southeast Division Conf.  
Savannah, GA

### APRIL

- 17-19** Mississippi State Convention

### MAY

- 7-10** GEORGIA STATE CONVENTION  
Peachtree City

# DISPATCHES FROM THE DECK

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*Ronnie Griffin*

As we close in on the holidays, let us remember what the seasons are about and how thankful we should be for all our many blessings. Often times we tend to not think of many of the blessings we have every day. Such as the next breath, the food on our tables or the ones that put up with us day in and day out. Be thankful for the little things and the good people God has put in your life. Tell those close to you that they are special and that you care. Every time you leave your house, tell those you are leaving that you love them. Remember, you may not get another chance. Take the opportunity when you can. On behalf of the entire staff, Have an outstanding Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas.



## QUARTERLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



On November 14–15, 2025, the Department held its Quarterly Dinner and Meeting. The weekend began on Friday with a gathering at Piedmont Brewery, where members enjoyed great food, refreshing drinks, and excellent company. On Saturday, the Department convened in Jackson, Georgia, for the quarterly meeting, conducting business and discussing plans to further support the mission and activities of the League.



At the National Convention, numerous honors were presented, and the Department of Georgia proudly earned 2nd place for achieving an impressive 106.56% membership growth over the previous year. During the Department's quarterly meeting, Senior Vice Commandant Lisa Delk formally presented the award to the members, recognizing their outstanding dedication and collective effort in strengthening the Marine Corps League across Georgia.



During the Quarterly meeting, Scott Barwick, the Commandant of Detachment #1333, presented the Department Board of Trustees with a commemorative coin honoring the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps. This token serves as a symbol of pride, tradition, and the enduring legacy of the Corps.

# A FEW GOOD UPDATES

## newsletter submissions

Please send all submissions to:  
[newsletter@mcldeptofga.org](mailto:newsletter@mcldeptofga.org)

To be featured in the "Aound The League in Georgia" section of the newsletter please include the following:

- Detachment Name
- Clear Photos/flyers
- Individuals in the photos
- Event name/date
- Details about event
- What is happening in pictures
- Other pertinent details.

To submit an article, please submit in a Word document and include your name and detachment.

Please do not submit screenshots.

Political content will not be accepted

**We want to feature every detachment that sends in submissions! If 20 detachments participate, all 20 will be highlighted. If just a few submit, only those will appear. And when a detachment sends multiple photos or stories, the newsletter editor will do their best to include as many as possible—making sure your detachment's efforts get the recognition they deserve.**

## website submissions

Do you have an upcoming event or raffle that you want everyone to know about? Send your flyer to Ed Gizara at [ga.paymaster@mcldeptofga.org](mailto:ga.paymaster@mcldeptofga.org) and have it showcased in the Upcoming Events section of the

Department website. This is a great way to reach members, generate excitement, and make sure your event gets the attention it deserves. Don't miss your chance to get noticed!

## facebook post submissions

If you would like to have a Detachment FB post shared on the Department FB page, please tag

**Marine Corps League Department of Georgia** in your Facebook posts so it can be seen and shared.

*Posts that violate FB standards or MCL policies will not be shared*



Show your solidarity for U.S. service members who are currently deployed around the world. On Friday wear red clothing as a visible reminder to keep deployed troops in our thoughts and to honor their sacrifices until they return home safely.

**SEND IN YOUR RED FRIDAY PICTURES!**



SOURCE: Terminal Lance

# AROUND THE LEAGUE IN GEORGIA

“Around the League in Georgia” is our ongoing effort to highlight the outstanding work and activities of Marine Corps League detachments across the state. Each issue will showcase the camaraderie, events, traditions, and community engagements that strengthen our League and reflect the spirit of Marines serving their communities.

This edition is especially meaningful, as we feature the many detachments that proudly came together to celebrate the 250th Birthday of our illustrious Corps. From formal ceremonies and cake cuttings to heartfelt tributes honoring our traditions and those who have served, each gathering reflected the pride, camaraderie, and enduring spirit of the United States Marine Corps. These celebrations not only marked a historic milestone but also underscored the unity and dedication that define Marines past, present, and future.

Whether celebrating historic milestones, honoring veterans, supporting local initiatives, or strengthening fellowship within our detachments, every effort contributes to preserving Marine Corps heritage and expanding our impact throughout Georgia. We invite all members to stay engaged, share their activities, and continue celebrating the work being done by Marines and Marine Corps League members across our great state.

## MAJ LAWRENCE DES JARDINES #1260

### ALBANY, GEORGIA ...

Albany Detachment 1260 commemorated Veterans Day with a heartfelt breakfast held at the American Legion Post 30 – WHB in Albany, Georgia. Detachment members gathered to share fellowship, reflect on the meaning of the day, and honor all who have served our nation.

Continuing a cherished tradition, members also visited Crown Point Cemetery, where they placed a wreath on the gravesite of Major DesJardines in remembrance of his service and sacrifice. This act of respect serves as a solemn reminder of the legacy of those who came before us and the enduring bond shared among Marines.



# CENTRAL GEORGIA

## #1373

### PERRY, GEORGIA ...

Detachment 1373 delivered a substantial supply of much-needed food items to the Perry VA Clinic, helping ensure that local veterans have access to essential support.

In addition to the delivery, members had the privilege of visiting Mr. Waller, a Vietnam veteran, at his home. At 83 years young, he was full of energy and spirit, and the visit was filled with stories, laughter, and genuine camaraderie.

Experiences like these serve as powerful reminders of why our mission matters. Every act of service—whether delivering food, offering companionship, or simply showing up—makes a meaningful impact. These moments reinforce the importance of continuing to support, honor, and uplift the veterans in our communities, who have given so much to our nation.



**Guest of Honor:  
CPL Tony Mullis**



# BLUE RIDGE

## #1438

### BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA ...

Detachment #1438 is hitting the ground running this season, actively raising funds and collecting toys for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. Members are working tirelessly to ensure children in the community experience the joy of the holidays, and their efforts reflect the detachment's unwavering commitment to service and giving back. Every donation brings smiles to young faces and strengthens the bond between the League and the local community.



# MAJ STEPHEN W PLESS

## #1196

### GRIFFIN, GEORGIA ...

Members of Detachment #1196 recently took time to visit seven veterans residing at a local long-term care facility where they expressed appreciation for the veterans' service, and reminded them that they are never forgotten by their Marine Corps family. The visit served as a meaningful reminder of the bonds that unite all Marines —past and present— and the continued mission to support and uplift those who have served our nation. The Detachment also had the honor of presenting Ronnie Griffin with the Detachment 1196 Marine of the Year Award. This well-deserved recognition celebrates Ronnie's outstanding dedication, leadership, and service to both the League and the community.



# UNICOI

## #783

### BLAIRSVILLE, GEORGIA ...

Following their usual Coffee & Camaraderie gathering on Monday morning, members of Detachment #783 visited Appalachian Hospice and Palliative Care in Blairsville. During the visit, the detachment not only spent time connecting with staff and residents but also delivered much-needed supplies for patients, helping to make their days a little brighter and more comfortable. Detachment #783 remains deeply committed to supporting veterans from all branches of the military, as well as the communities in which they live. Through visits like this, they continue to exemplify the Marine Corps League's core values of service, compassion, and camaraderie, making a meaningful difference in the lives of those they serve.



**Guest of Honor:  
Kaiyle & Devon Payne**

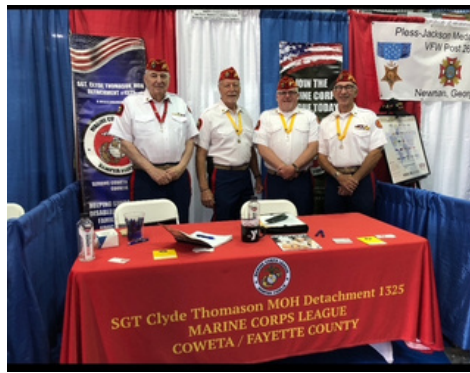


# SGT CLYDE THOMASON MOH

## #1325

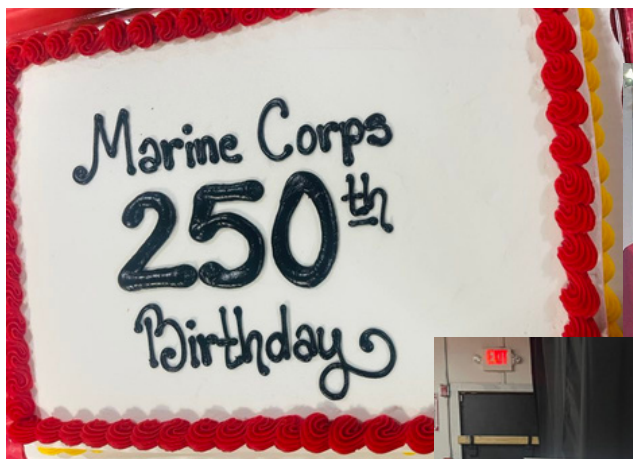
### NEWANAN, GEORGIA ...

Over the past several weeks, Detachment #1325 came together through community outreach, fellowship events, and ceremonial duties that reflect the pride and professionalism of the Marine Corps League in the Newnan area. Members represented the Detachment at the Expo held at the YMCA in Newnan, where they engaged with local residents, shared information about our mission, and strengthened community connections. Their flag giveaway at Walmart was another highlight, allowing them to interact with shoppers, distribute American flags, and raise funds that directly support ongoing programs for veterans and their families. They also enjoyed well-attended social gatherings, giving members an opportunity to unwind, share camaraderie, and strengthen bonds within the detachment.



# WEST CHATHAM

## #1326



**Guest of Honor:  
Maj Gen Larry Taylor**



# JOSEPH SCHMITTOU

#1083



**Guest of Honor:  
Joey Jones**

# LCPL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS

#647

## MARIETTA, GEORGIA ...

The Skip Wells Detachment proudly participated in the Marietta Veterans Day Parade, joining fellow veterans, community groups, and local organizations in honoring all who have served our nation. Their presence helped highlight the strong bond between the Marine Corps League and the Marietta community, making the parade a meaningful and memorable event for all in attendance.




# NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAIN

#1280

## JASPER, GEORGIA ...

Members Steve Chance, Jake Jacobsen, and Steve Harrington were honored with well-deserved Quilts of Valor during their September monthly meeting. Each quilt was presented in recognition of their dedicated service and the sacrifices they made in defense of our nation. It was a meaningful and heartfelt moment for the detachment, as they gathered to celebrate their contributions and express their gratitude in a tangible and personal way.




JOIN US FOR

# COFFEE *and* CAMERADERIE

EVERY MONDAY, 10 AM  
BLAIRSVILLE RESTAURANT | VETERANS ROOM

FOR MORE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE EVENTS, SCAN HERE



MCL UNICOI DETACHMENT #783

## FOOD DRIVE FOR VETS

SPONSORED BY:  
CENTRAL GEORGIA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
DETACHMENT 1373

**HELP US FEED OUR VETERANS!**  
Through our partnership with the Perry VA Clinic, we are dedicated to addressing food insecurity among veterans in our community. Many of our nation's heroes face difficult times after service, and it's our mission to make sure that no veteran goes hungry. By combining resources, compassion, and community support, we strive to provide hope, nourishment, and dignity to those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

**Here's How You Can Help:**

- Cash Donations
- Order from Walmart Wishlist
- Contribute ANY Non-Perishable food items at one of our drop off locations:

**Warner Robins: Coldwell Banker Access Realty**  
470 Houston Lake Rd.

**Perry: Giles Realty - 1803 Houston Lake Rd**



CASH DONATIONS



**WALMART WISHLIST**  
\*Change delivery address to "Candie's Address"

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT  
**CANDIE (843) 441-9727**



## FOOD DRIVE LINKS

➔ [CASH DONATIONS](#) ➔ [WALMART WISHLIST](#)

If you want the links sent to you, Text 843-441-9727

# **SE DIVISION FIELD REPORT**

## **79TH MCL SOUTHEAST DIVISION CONFERENCE - SAVANNAH, GA MARCH 4-8, 2026**

Don't miss the 79th Marine Corps League Southeast Division Conference, where members from across the Magnificent 7 will gather to share ideas, celebrate a commitment to service, and strengthen the bonds that make our Division strong. This annual event is more than just a meeting — it's a chance to connect with fellow Marines and League members, exchange experiences, and learn from one another.

Registration is now open, and signing up is quick and easy. By registering, you'll gain access to informative sessions, and networking opportunities, as well as the chance to participate in important discussions that shape the future of our Division.

Whether you're a long-time member or new to the League, this conference offers something for everyone — from learning best practices to celebrating our accomplishments and reconnecting with old friends. Don't wait to register; reserve your spot today and be part of an unforgettable experience that highlights the spirit, pride, and dedication of the Marine Corps League.

**To register for conference and hotel information visit the Department of Georgia Website**

**OR**  
**CLICK HERE**



# MCL NATIONAL BRIEFING

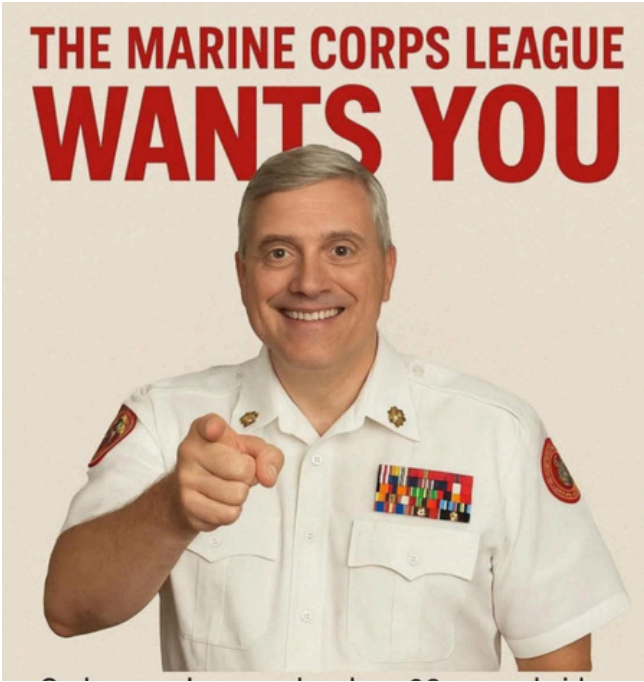


## NATIONAL MARINE OF THE YEAR: JOHNNY BAKER

At the conclusion of the National Convention in Grapevine, Texas, a distinguished leader of the Marine Corps League was honored in an unforgettable way. Johnny Baker—Past National Commandant of the Marine Corps League, Past Commandant of the Department of Alabama, Past Commandant of the McLaughlin Detachment #1091 and current member of Detachment #1373—was awarded the prestigious National Marine of the Year Award.

Grab your phone and make a 30 second video on why you joined the Marine Corps League. Get your Detachment involved, have fun with it and then send it to [VIDEOS@MCLEAGUE.ORG](mailto:VIDEOS@MCLEAGUE.ORG)

“This is a National Project and I encourage everyone to have fun and put together a 30 sec video for our NPR team to compile and post on to all our social media platforms.” - TJ Morgan



## Help us reach children in need this holiday season

“The Toys for Tots mission is to bring hope and joy to children during the holiday season. Founded by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, the program’s goal is simple but powerful:

*To collect new, unwrapped toys and distribute them to less fortunate children at Christmas.*

By doing this, Toys for Tots helps deliver a message of hope that inspires children to grow into responsible, productive, and caring citizens. Every year, Marines and volunteers work together in communities across the nation - collecting donations, sorting toys, and ensuring every child experiences the magic of Christmas, no matter their circumstance.”

## The Origin of Tun Tavern

On January 5, 1681, William Penn was granted 40,000 square miles from Britain for his father's services. This territory would become Pennsylvania, and Penn invited Quakers and other religions to come to the New World and worship according to their faith. Samuel Carpenter took him up on his offer and purchased 5,000 acres in Pennsylvania. For such a large purchase, William Penn rewarded Samuel Carpenter with one of the best pieces of land in the city. Joshua Carpenter accepted the invitation as well, and Samuel sold his brother a piece of his property.

Taverns were making a lot of money at the time, and both brothers decided to jump on that bandwagon. Joshua built a tavern on the cartway leading to Carpenter's Wharf, and he named it Tun. The cartway leading to the tavern would eventually be known as Tun Alley. Samuel Carpenter's wharf brought in ships, which lured merchants, traders, sailors, and dockworkers. All of these men would meet and discuss business opportunities at Samuels and Joshua's public houses.

In the 1730s, the proprietors of Tun Tavern (known initially as "Tun") and the Eight Partners brewery were widows. Despite being competitors, both establishments would help each other out. Mary



Campion, the proprietor of Tun Tavern, would cook meals for the brewers of Eight Partners, and in return, Elizabeth Cuff would sell beer to the Tun at a discount. This teamwork created a harmonizing relationship that led to Tun's success. Tun Tavern turned into one of the favorite venues for clubs and societies to meet daily. The popularity led to the creation of many notable groups and is considered the birthplace of the Freemasons and United States Marine Corps.

Taverns in colonial Philadelphia were the center of social and political life in the 18th century. In 1769, Philadelphia had 178 licensed public houses for a population of 28,042. That's one public house for every 158 men, women, and children in the city- and yes, children visited taverns. They consumed "small beers" that had a low alcohol content, and it was preferred to water since the local source was often unsafe to drink. Residents would socialize at their local tavern, debate current government policies, and protest current political events.

On November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress commissioned Samuel Nicholas to raise two Battalions of Marines. That very day, Nicholas became the Commandant of the Marines and appointed Robert Mullan, then the tavern proprietor, the honor of becoming the first U.S. Marine recruiter. Men flocked to the tavern to take up arms as the first Continental Marines fighting for their new country in the American Revolution. These men began the legacy that would later include Iwo Jima, Chosin, Hue and Fallujah, along with nicknames such as "Devil Dog" and "Leathernecks."

SOURCE: <https://www.facebook.com/marinehistory>

# MISSION ESSENTIALS

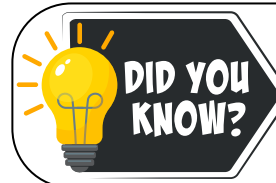
## VA HEALTH & BENEFITS APP

### DOWNLOAD THE VA HEALTH AND BENEFITS APP ON YOUR SMARTPHONE



- Access health care tools
- Refill prescriptions
- Review and cancel your VA medical appointments
- Send and receive messages with your VA health care team
- Download common VA letters and documents
- Proof of service at your fingertips

## IMPORTANT LINKS



You can click on any of the underlined links in the newsletter to take you to the webpage

### VA Website:

<https://www.va.gov>

### VA REACH Program:

<https://www.va.gov/REACH/>

### Georgia Dept. of Veterans Affairs:

<https://veterans.georgia.gov>

### Georgia Veteran's Benefits:

<https://veterans.georgia.gov/state-benefits>

### Georgia Hud:

<https://www.hud.gov/states/georgia>

The below links accompany the Lunch and Learn session from the August Quarterly Meeting and are designed to help you put the information you learned into action. By following the step-by-step prompts on each page, you'll be able to quickly and easily create your own professional digital business card and customized QR codes. In just a few minutes, you can have shareable tools that make networking and connecting with others simpler, faster, and more effective.

### DIGITAL BUSINESS CARD



<https://blinq.me>

### QR CODE GENERATOR



<https://www.qrcode-monkey.com>

Veterans  
Crisis Line



DIAL 988 then  
PRESS 1

Call

Dial 988 then Press 1

Chat

[VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat)

Text

838255

The Veterans Crisis Line is free and confidential.

When you call, chat, or text, a qualified responder will listen and help. You decide how much information to share. Support doesn't end with your conversation. Responders can connect you with the resources you need. You DO NOT need to be enrolled in VA benefits or healthcare to connect.



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