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RDU-Marine Corps League

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Commandant's Corner ~ Bruce Goeden

Members of the RDU Detachment,
Welcome to September

By the time you read this we will have had our September meeting.

Springfield, Illinois, was an interesting place to say the least. I worked with the Kennel Staff to assist in promoting members of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs to the degree of Pedigree.

Everyone had a Great time!

The meeting was productive and a By-Law change now allows Navy personnel who served with us Marines and received the FMF designation and it was added to their DD-214 as is the case of Kevin Rumsey who is being moved from an Associate member to a Regular member.

Congratulations Kevin!!!

I was able Hob Nob with members of the National Staff from the National and Past Commandants, down the chain of command, all the way to the National District Vice Commandants who all have articles in the Semper Fi Magazine each month. We had some great conversations and toasts all around at the different gatherings.

Looking forward to a lot of you joining us in Daytona Beach Florida, next year!

The highlight of the week for me was when all the Devil Dogs were Advanced to Pedigree.

Back here at home. We will be either participating in a 9-11 ceremony at the Capital or some will be at the Winter Membership Conference in Fayetteville NC on the 10th and 11th. On October 23rd there will be a Beirut Memorial event either in Raleigh at the Capital or there is a possibility we may carpool to the Memorial Event in Jacksonville NC.

A Golf Fund Raiser and Family Picnic is being planned for October 16th at Heddingham Golf Course.

I look forward to seeing all of you and your families for a day of Fun and Festivities.

We will Kick off our Toys-4-Tots at the October meeting and end it the 2nd weekend in December.

The Exact End Date will be forth coming

On the Morning of November 6th we will participate in the

Veterans Day Parade and then finish the year with our 1st RDU Detachment, Marine Corps Ball scheduled for the evening of November 6th.

So, between Today and the Ball, I ask all of you to step up and help out in as many areas as possible. This is the sprint to the finish line for this year and we need everyone involved.

I want to Thank the RDU Staff for their hard work in making these events happen.

Recruiting New members is still our Top Priority. As of this writing we have at least 5 New members joining our ranks. Let's **Keep Recruiting New Members.**

Lastly Renewal of Dues : For those who are not Life Members and have not Renewed yet! You can either send your check for \$30.00 to the paymaster at 2144 Page Rd, Suite 104, Durham NC 27703-5951 or go to the RDU website store and pay your dues with a credit card. The \$3.00 processing Fee has already been added. The dues are \$30.00 and \$3.00 for credit card processing fee. Please send the Paymaster an email with your information to paymaster@rdu-mcl.org so we can be assured of an accurate transaction record. You may also pay your Dues at the meeting.

Semper fi!

Bruce



Sr Vice Commandant ~ A J Pitts

Thank you all

A J Pitts
Senior Vice Commandant

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**Paymaster ~
Tomas "Frank" Castillo**

Greetings and Salutations Fellow Marines!

I'm happy to report that the RDU Detachment has had a burst of activity, with new members, group activities with focus on fellowship and engagement in our community.

Given the current mood in the country, we need to feel that we are part of a positive, contributory and productive organization. The MCL offers that comradeship and well-being! I hope that you understand that we need each other, for exchange of ideas, sharing our concerns and combining our talents to progress toward self-appointed goals.

"Strength in numbers" is what I learned while in the Marines! As an organization, we can do much to improve our community, with each one of us contributing their personal skills and knowledge. I'm optimistic that our Detachment will provide a positive outlet for former Marines, as well as a positive example for the community to reflect upon. As General John A. Lejeune was quoted as saying, "Fleets cannot operate without bases". Let's make the RDU Detachment a base from which we can extend ourselves, but always come back to!

Frank Castillo
Paymaster



**Jr Vice Commandant ~
Jewell Thomas, Jr**

I just want to say greetings, hope everyone is well and blessed. Can't wait for our Hedingham fundraiser, turnout should be good. Still working on recruiting for our league and hope we keep growing and serving our community and each other. In closing remember we aren't underdogs we're Devil Dogs and we're trained ~ keep doing what you can and stay Semper Fi



**Adjutant ~
Jacque' Griffin**

RDU-MCL Detachment#1482 is officially moving into its 2nd Quarter of activity. Now is the time to SHINE as we delve into Fundraising! We Need YOU to successfully achieve our goals.

October 16th, Saturday begins with a 10:00 a.m. Golfing fun event; then at 2:30 p.m. invite your families, friends and neighbors to a Picnic at Hedingham Golf Course. November 6th, Saturday, we celebrate elaborately our **246th Marine Corps Ball!** Check out our website ~ rdu-mcl.org for complete details.

See You There



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SEPTEMBER 2021

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**Chaplain ~
Jeff Mixon**

The unfolding human tragedy in Afghanistan is on many of our minds this month. Scenes of the evacuation of our allies are reminiscent of the fall of Saigon.

While I certainly encourage you to join me in praying for the safety of our military forces still in the country, I want us to think ahead about how we can help.

Thousands of Afghan allies who risk their lives to support our Marines are being saved and brought to US. This presents a unique opportunity for us as a Veterans Service Organization. I am currently looking into the agencies in our area that will be receiving the Afghan refugees.

I would like for us to begin thinking about ways that we can welcome and help them adjust to life in their new country. That may take the form of putting together welcome packages or connecting with individual families. Please put some effort into thinking how you can make a difference as an individual. Maybe you have a small business that needs help or know of one that does.

The men of these families served alongside our Marines and Sailors and face the same bullets and bombs. In the same way that members of the Special Forces community adopted the montagnards in the 7s and 0s from Vietnam on, so too we have the opportunity to help please battle Buddies today.

As I learn more about what the needs of the community are, I will be presenting that information at our next meeting. Please be prepared to make a commitment to make a difference in the lives of these folks.

Please join me in prayer:

Dear Supreme Commandant, we beseech you to protect our Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Soldiers during this difficult time in Afghanistan. We also ask for your Grace & Merche for our Gold Star families from Afghanistan as well as Veterans of that conflict as they struggle to make sense of the sacrifices that were made. May you bless our country and provide wisdom in the coming days.

Amen.



**Judge Advocate ~
Patrick Melton**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the RDU Detachment
I wanted to let you all know that earlier this week we received our draft Bylaws back from the Department. Over the next week to two weeks, I will be reviewing them and making some changes to them that were requested by the

Department. I will also be sharing them with the other Officers of the Detachment for review. Once that is completed I will post them on the website under the Members Only section for your review and comments.

As we draw to the end of this hot summer I wanted to look back at all that we have done and once again say Thank You for all of your hard work and assistance in getting this Detachment Chartered and running. We could not have done it without the support of all of you. We are looking forward to having a great Fall with both the Picnic, Toys-4-Tots, Marine Corps Ball to name a few. Along with that a break from the heat and some great football to watch. Semper Fi and we will see you at the next meeting!

Patrick
Judge Advocate

Sergeant-at-Arms ~ Kevin Rumsey

What is a **Sgt-at-Arms**?

The actual term goes back to the 1400's, with the definition by Merriam-Webster Dictionary meaning ``" an officer of an organization (such as a legislative body or court of law) who preserves order and executes commands".

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S/F

Kevin

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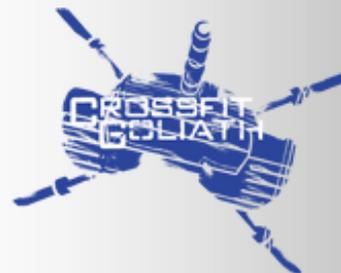
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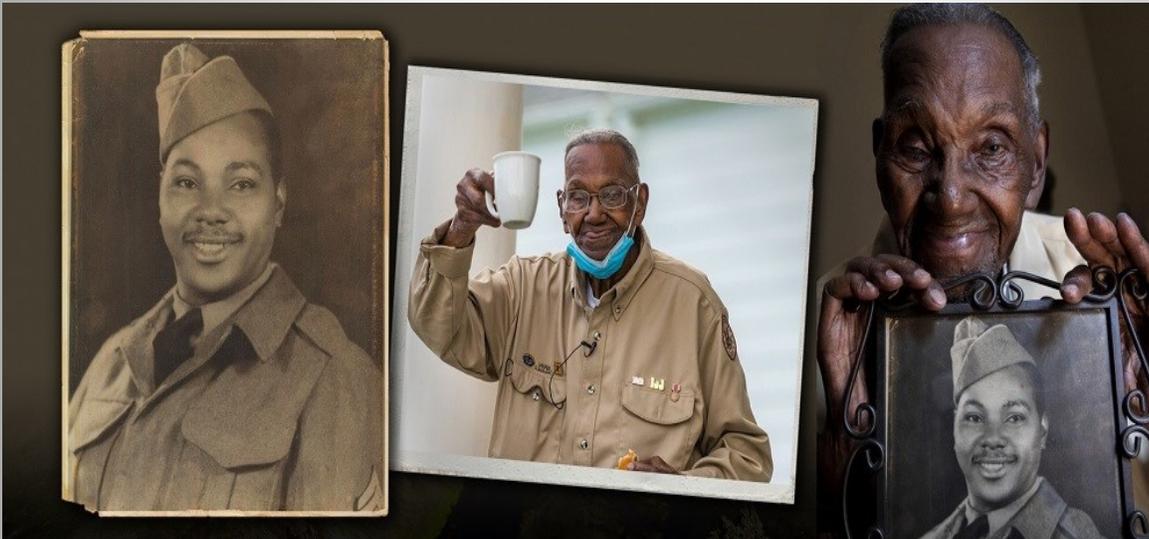


Veterans Health Care, September 23: Hear from the nation's oldest WWII Vet

Veterans Health Administration sent this bulletin at 09/23/2021 05:30 PM EDT

Providing health care to America's Veterans

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is home to America's largest integrated health care system, serving 9 million enrolled Veterans each year. [Join your fellow Veterans](#). Here are some of their stories.



Happy 112th Birthday to Army Veteran Lawrence Brooks

Happy birthday to the nation's oldest WWII Veteran! Lawrence Brooks, a patient at VA New Orleans, marked his 112th birthday on September 12.

Brooks received the hospital's 20,000th COVID-19 vaccine. After the injection, Brooks was overjoyed, exclaiming, "I finally got it!"

His advice to those who ask his secret to longevity: "Serve God and be nice to people."

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NEW MEMBER INSTALLATION ~ September 9, 2021



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