



**THE GREATER NEVADA DETACHMENT #186
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

THE WORD

**Volume 2008
Issue 6
Nov. 2008**

**SEMPER FI
MARINES**

Detachment Website Address — <http://www.mcldet186.org>

COMMANDANT - MICHAEL S. LAMB

Sr. Vice Commandant	James V. Frizzle
Jr. Vice Commandant	Gary Copenhaver
Judge Advocate	Steven J. King
Jr. Past Commandant	R. Paul Bowen
Paymaster	T. Scott Kruse
Chaplain	Richard M. Moran
Sgt. At Arms	Caroll M. George
Adjutant	Dave McGrath
Historian	Betty Elinoff

Next General Membership Meeting Nov. 25, 2008 at 7 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines, this year's elections are over. I want to thank Robert Veloz and Betty Elinoff for their work on the election committee. The new officers of the Greater Nevada Detachment are: Commandant, Jack O'Rourke; Sr. Vice Commandant Vinnie Sherman; Jr. Vice Commandant Richard Szyk; Paymaster Scott Kruse; Adjutant Dave McGrath; Judge Advocate Sean Moore; Chaplain Rich Moran and Sgt at Arms Caroll George. My thanks to all members who stood for election and my congratulations to the new Board of Officers.

Message From The Commandant continued on page 7

Deadlines for next issue will be Nov. 19, 2008

Editor/Publisher

Mary Bigelow
4360 Spring Mountain
Las Vegas, NV 89102
editor@mcldet186.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Club Manager's Message	2
Popaditch	2
Marine Riders	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
MC Birthday Ball Ticket Info.	5
Club Activities	6
MCL Color Guard	6
Message From the Commandant Cont'd.	7
Toys For Tots Poker Run Info.	8
Active Duty Prior To 2002 Info.	8
Handbook Info.	9
Vietnam Wall Info.	9
Membership Exp.	10
Message From the Commandant Cont'd.	10
Life Membership Info.	11
Membership App.	12

MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB MANAGER - JIMMY GRACH

With the Marine Corps Birthday Ball just around the corner we are starting to make some preparations. If you would like to leave your car at the Club on the night of the “Ball”, there will be a shuttle bus that will take you from the Club to the South Point Hotel & Casino. Departure times are between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., with return trips between 10 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. The shuttle service is FREE. Hopefully this will help us prevent any drinking and driving. On the “Ball” weekend Travis will be serving breakfast from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ... at a very reasonable price. Also, the Club will serve food from 4:00 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday night. We will also be hosting a cake cutting event at 6:00 p.m. on Friday night. Donations will be appreciated.

Remember, the “Veteran’s Day Parade” is Nov. 11th. The Club will serve donuts and coffee before we depart, from the Club, for the Parade at 8:30 a.m. The Club will remain open longer hours from Nov. 7 through Nov. 11 in honor of these big events. So come on down and celebrate the Marine Corps’ Birthday with all of us at the Club.

Thanksgiving Day the Club will have a “Turkey and Ham Feast” from 2:30 p.m. until it is gone. Anybody who wants to help cook or bring side dishes (potatoes, veggies, etc.), please let me know so we can plan ahead.

NICK POPADITCH’S BOOK SIGNING EVENT

In April 2004, Nick fights heroically in the battle for Fallujah and suffers grievous head wounds that leave him legally blind and partially deaf. The USMC awards him with a Silver Star for his valor and combat innovations. “Gunny Pop” comes home to face the toughest fight of his life ... a battle to remain the man and Marine he was. Nick will be at the Club on Nov. 12th from noon until 4:00 p.m., for a book signing of his book “Once a Marine”; which is a must read story of one of today’s real heroes. Please mark your calendars and join us for this special event.

MARINE RIDERS OF LAS VEGAS - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11-1	Toys For Tots Run
11-1	Soldiers Supporting Soldiers
11-4	Escort Traveling Wall into Las Vegas
11-8	Marine Corps Ball
11-9	Vietnam Vets "Veterans" Party
11-13	Confederation of Clubs Meeting
11-15	Vago's MC Party
11-17	Marine Riders' Monthly Meeting - 7 p.m. - Leatherneck Club
11-18	ABATE Meeting at Mr. D's (702) 731-6453
11-23	Red Riderz 23rd Annual Turkey Run

For information on upcoming events visit the Marine Riders' website at <http://marineriders.us>.

MARINE RIDERS OF LAS VEGAS - MEETING INFORMATION

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.	Marine Riders of Las Vegas Monthly Meeting	Marine Corps League
2nd Thursday of every month at Washington 7:00 p.m.	Confederation of Clubs	Eagles Club (Corner of Bruce & by Cashman Field)
1st Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.	Marine Corps League Officers Meeting	Marine Corps League

Please email "SNOOPY" with all updates, changes or corrections at snoopy@marineriders.us. or you can email the editor of The Word at editor@mcldet186.org.

MASTER CARD AND VISA ARE NOW ACCEPTED AT THE BAR.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I want everyone to know that Chet is improving and should be around to be correcting us again. Joe Babcock had heart surgery and should be home by the time this edition of "The Word" goes to press. The Birthday Ball is almost upon us and I hope to see everyone there.

My salute this month is to Gary the bartender for installing the TV's, Vinnie for the TV's and Gary for the railing in the bunker. Also, a big thanks to Chris the electrician and Jimmy Grach for the fine finishing touches on the wall behind the bar. Gentlemen I humbly say "Thank You!".

Thoughts:

Every situation, properly perceived becomes an opportunity. He who conquers ... endures. For fast acting relief, try slowing down.

To all my Members, have a happy turkey day. To your families thank you for a job well done and a salute to Mike Lamb for all he has done as Commandant. Good job Mike!

Reflection:

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He has chosen for his own inheritance. May God continue to bless each and everyone of you this Season of Joy.

Your Chaplain:

E. Moran

GENERAL MEETING REMINDER

Next General Meeting is Nov. 25th. All associate/regular members are welcome.

2008 MARINE COPRS BIRTHDAY BALL INFORMATION

You are all invited to celebrate the Marine Corps' 233rd Birthday November 8, 2008 at the South Point Hotel & Casino; located at Las Vegas Blvd. and Silverado Blvd.

This year's ball will continue the proud tradition of celebrating the birthday of the United States Marine Corps.

On November 10, 1775, the Second Congress resolved to raise two battalions of "American Marines". Congress commissioned 31 year old Samuel Nicholas, a well-know Philadelphian, as captain of the fledgling force of Continental Marines. Nicholas raised two battalions of Marines and began the long, illustrious history of the United States Marine Corps.

On November 1, 1921, General John A. Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 45, Series 1921. The order provided a summary of the history, mission, and traditions of the Corps. General Lejeune directed that the order be read to every command each subsequent year on November 10th in honor of the founding of the Marine Corps. This tradition has continued every year since 1921 throughout the Corps.

The first official "Birthday Ball" was probably held in 1925 in Philadelphia. No official records of the event were held prior to that date. Guests at the ball in 1925 included the Secretary of the Navy, General Lajeune, well-know national leaders, and representatives from all the military services.

On October 28, 1952, Commandant General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., directed the celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday be formalized throughout the Corps. The details were included in the Marine Corps Drill Manual approved in 1956. General Shepherd's order helped bring together the inclusion of a cake ceremony and other traditions still held every year the Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

Tickets are still available at \$60.00 each and are non-refundable. Call Jack O'Rourke at 702-399-3209 to purchase your tickets. Please do not wait until the night of the "Ball" to purchase tickets as we need to provide South Point with a head count of those attending.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's gala event!

LEATHERNECK CLUB SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

THIS MONTH AT THE LEATHERNECK CLUB

Note: Dates are subject to change or events may be added per management.

- 11-1 Marine Riders - 10 a.m.
- 11-1 Finance Meeting - Noon
- 11-1 Political Rally - 2:00 p.m.
- 11-1 Private Party - 6:00 p.m.
- 11-3 Ladies Legion Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11-3 Officers Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11-4 Don Woodbright - 8:00 p.m.
- 11-5 Bottle Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11-6 Chicago Police Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11-7 USMC Birthday Cake Cutting - 6:00 p.m.
- 11-8 American Legion Meeting - 10:30 a.m.
- 11-11 Veteran's Day Parade - 8:30 a.m.
- 11-17 Marine Riders Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11-19 Nevada Gems - 11:00 a.m.
- 11-21 Private Party - 4:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.
- 11-22 Purple Hearts - 10:30 a.m.
- 11-25 General Meeting - 7:00 p.m..
- 11-27 Turkey & Ham Feast - 2:30 p.m.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY

This month was a real slow month for the Color Guard ... we only did one event. A friend of the Marine League called me and asked if he could borrow two pair of white gloves and I asked him what for. He told me that the husband of one of his coworkers, who had been in the Coast Guard, had died suddenly and he wanted to fold a American Flag at a family gathering. I asked if she would like two Marines to fold the flag. Rich Szyc and I went to the house and folded the flag in front of about twenty family members. The widow and the deceased's parents really appreciated our participation and thanked us very much.

We do have a request for two Color Guards on Sat , Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 23 at 12 noon. The Enduro Motocross Motorcycle National and World Championships are the host. Call me (Jack O'Rourke), if you'd like to participate (702) 368-1775.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT CONT'D.

I would like to thank all the Marines who have served with me these past 2 ½ years: Sr. Vice Commandants Jim Childress and Jim Frizzell; Jr. Vice Commandants Jack O'Rourke and Gary Copenhaver; Paymaster Scott Kruse, Adjutants Cheryl Gardner, Kim Rauch, Don Dorsey and Dave McGrath; Judge Advocates Robert Veloz and Steve King; Chaplains Steve Sanson and Rich Moran and Sgt. at Arms Scott Motl and Carroll George. If I have missed anyone, I apologize.

The Greater Nevada Detachment has come a long way during the period I have been your Commandant and under Jack's leadership I expect we will progress even further. Sadly, we have performed many ceremonies and funerals for our fallen comrades. I want to commend Rich Moran for his help and support. Rich and I have performed many funerals these past years and he has really grown into his position as Chaplain. I know he will continue to grow and perform as Chaplain during the next year. I ask all Marines to join me in giving the new officers your complete support and wishes for good luck.

For those of you who haven't been down to the club lately, the facade of the bar will appear different. The face of our bar is now adorned in stone. There are three HD televisions; two on the bar and one hanging. We are working to procure a fourth. At the rear, the "Bunker" is now complete. Check it out! It looks great! Many thanks to Jim Grach and his crew!

This column will reach many members before the fact, therefore: preparations are underway for the 233rd birthday celebration of the Corps. The ball will be November 8th at the South Point Casino; tickets are still available; contact Jack O'Rourke at 702-809-5302. I hope to see you there! We WILL have an early cake cutting ceremony Friday evening, November 7th at 1800hrs, at the Leatherneck Club. BE THERE!

Message From The Commandant continued on page 10

U.S. MARINE COPRS RESERVE "TOYS FOR TOTS" POKER RUN

This years Toys For Tots Poker Run is sponsored by the U.S. Marine Reserve and the Marine Riders of Las Vegas.

Registration will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Toys R Us, 4550 Meadows Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada which is just East of Decatur. There will be 5 stops throughout the valley. The last hand has to be in by 2:30 p.m.

Registration fees are \$20.00 per rider, \$15.00 per passenger and anyone who donates a toy will receive a \$5.00 discount. (Note: Toys R Us opens at 8:00 a.m. should you wish to purchase a toy there.)

Remember, 100% of donations stay in Southern Nevada. 50% of money to the prize pool, 50% of the money goes to Toys for Tots ... so let's support this event.

For information or to donate call 702-336-9755.

INFORMATION FOR THOSE WITH ACTIVE DUTY PRIOR TO 2002

Anyone who has had active duty service prior to January 2002 and is planning for retirement ... this might be of interest to you.

In a nutshell it boils down to this:

You qualify for a higher social security payment because of your military service, for active duty any time from 1940 through 2001 (the program was done away with in January 2002). Up to \$1200 per year of earnings credit credited at time of application; which can make a substantial difference in social security monthly payments upon your retirement.

You must bring your DD-214 to the Social Security Office and you must ask for this benefit to receive it!

This is something to put in your files for the future when you apply for Social Security down the road. It is NOT just for retirees, BUT any one who has served on active duty prior to January 2002.

Social Security website: <http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>

NEW HANDBOOK

On October 6, 2008 the Department of Defense announced an updated handbook describing compensation and benefits for seriously ill or injured service members upon their separation or retirement. (This is a big document.)

The handbook was compiled in cooperation with the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and the Social Security Administration. Assistance was also received from other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The handbook describes the disability process, various program qualifications and application procedures with the associated contact information.

The electronic version of the handbook (which is available at <http://turbotap.org>) will be updated on a regular basis. The printed version will be updated annually

RENTAL OF CHILDRESS HALL FOR REUNIONS, MEETINGS, ETC.

If you wish to use the space for a party or a meeting place, please contact the club manager, Jimmy Grach, (702)368-1775 or email clubmgr@mcldet186.org for pricing and availability.

TRAVELING VIETNAM WALL TO BE IN LAS VEGAS

The "Traveling Vietnam Wall" will be on display at Davis Funeral Home on Eastern and Patrick. The display will opening at 1900 (7:00 p.m.) on 7 Nov. and leaving on 9 Nov.

If you have not seen this before ... this is a MUST!

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATIONS FOR OCTOBER 2008

<u>MEMBERS #</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>EXPIRATION DATE</u>
170086	Ross, Edward	11/30/08
103071	Mendoza, John	11/30/08
121759	Smith, Darrell	11/30/08
159894	Villanueva, Frank	11/30/08
181631	Whidden, Clint	11/30/08
187916	Kapala, Joseph	11/30/08
197013	Matthews, Jr., Samuel	11/30/08
203978	Martin, Steven	11/30/08
203981	Galvin, Sylvester	11/30/08
X22848	Ward, Kevin	11/30/08
X22847	Harris, Heidi	11/30/08
180557	Chapman, Edward	11/30/08
114941	Miscovich, Donald	11/30/08

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT CONT'D.

Meals are now a feature of each general membership meeting. During the last meeting (also election day) we had fajitas after the meeting... just another reason to come to the monthly meeting of your detachment.

It is time to sign off and pass the flag of the detachment to Jack. Please support your new officers as you have supported me in the past. I appreciate all the support and help I have received as your Commandant and look forward to lending a hand as your next Past Commandant. *It has been a wild, rewarding and fun ride.*

Semper Fidelis,



CHOP

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRICE INFORMATION

As of January 1, 2007

Up to and including age 35:	\$400.00
Age 36 up to and including age 50:	\$350.00
Age 51 up to and including age 60:	\$250.00
Age 61 and over:	\$125.00

Consider a life membership on your next renewal date.

The person applying for life membership must be a regular member in good standing for one (1) year prior to application.

National Bylaws Article Six—Members Section 645—Life Members

Any member of the Marine Corps League who is in good standing may become a life member, upon proper payment of the fee, as required herein. A life member shall be subject to the payment of no further dues of a detachment, department, or national, such member shall have all privileges, rights and benefits enjoyed as a member as long as that member shall live.

DON'T FORGET THE TOYS FOR TOTS GOLF TOURNAMENT

This year's tournament will be held on Friday, November 7, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. at Nellis AFB. All information including the application form is on the USMC Toys For Tots website at [http://www.toysfortotsvegas. Org..](http://www.toysfortotsvegas.Org..) Let's support this event and help make a difference in a child's life.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

On behalf of everyone at the Leatherneck Club ...

**MAY YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES
HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY!**

Dated News Open and Read Immediately
Greater Nevada Detachment
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS
4360 W. SPRING MOUNTAIN RD.
LAS VEGAS, NV. 89102-8749
(702) 368-1775



NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAS VEGAS NV.
PERMIT NO. 499

***All renewal dues and new memberships for will now cost \$30. Please consider becoming a life member. Life Membership information is on page 6 and Membership Expirations are on page 7.**



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Name: _____

Street: _____ # _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Phone Number _____

Date of Enlistment/Commissioning: _____

Date of Discharge/Separation/Retire: _____

Type of Application: New () Renewal () Dual () Regular () Associate ()

() I hereby apply for membership in the Greater Nevada Detachment, and enclosure **\$30.00** for one year's membership

() I hereby apply for membership in the Marine Corps League as a Member-At-Large (MAL) and enclose **\$30.00** for one year's membership

***Includes free subscription to MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAGAZINE**

I hereby certify I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, that the character of my service has been honorable, and if discharged, I am in receipt of an honorable discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable discharge/service upon request.

(Sponsor-where applicable)

Applicant's Signature

Upon completion, turn into your Detachment sponsor with required payment. Applicants for MAL Membership, remit this form with check or money order in the amount of \$30.00 to: Marine Corps League, P.O. Box 3070, Merrifield, VA 22116.