



Once A Marine,

Always A Marine!

FROM: **Richard L. Bollwerk, Commandant, Department of Missouri, MCL**

TO: Detachment Commandants; Department Staff

DATE: 21 January 2008

RE: Department Activities

Marines:

The Gateway City Detachment, under the leadership of Commandant Syl Brunnert, is to be commended for hosting a very well organized Quinn Conference a few weekends ago. The event was held at the Doubletree Hotel in St. Louis on January 11th and 12th. We had excellent local support and attendance at the conference, with 18 members representing 7 different Missouri Detachments. National Judge Advocate, Jim Tuohy was in attendance and presented an update on National MCL activities. A complete conference report will be given at the March staff meeting.

Our third quarter Staff meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, March 1st, 2007** in Jefferson City. The meeting begins promptly at 0900. Attendance at these meetings has been outstanding, and I hope that we will again have a good turnout. There are important issues to discuss and information to be shared.

Here are a couple of "heads up" items to help you prepare for the March staff meeting:

- Nominations for the ***Department Marine of the Year*** are due at the March meeting. Complete details for this program can be found on the Department website.
- Nominations for the ***Department Americanism Award*** are also due in March. Again, details for this award can be found on the Department website.
- If you plan to submit your Detachment newsletter for the ***Department Newsletter of the Year Award***, you must submit three copies of any three months from the past year.

Details for the Newsletter award and a sample of the scoring criteria are on the Department website. The Department web address is **www.momcl.org**

In addition, if you have any questions about these awards, you can contact Department Sr. Vice Commandant Dan Ferrell at bigdanatthelake@hotmail.com

- Those of you who conducted Toys For Tots programs should plan to submit a report to the Department TFT coordinator, Elmer Mansfield. Please be sure to include your TFT final information in your quarterly report as well.

Please remember that each Detachment Commandant should prepare and present a report of their Detachment's activities during the last 3 month period. Forms are available for download in two formats on the Department web page. Please bring two copies: one for the Department Adjutant and one for the Department Commandant.

At our December Department staff meeting, Sr. Vice Commandant Dan Ferrell discussed the planning of a **summer trip to Washington DC and to the new Marine Corps Museum at Quantico**. The trip itinerary has been completed and the cost per person has been calculated. Now it is time for us to make the information available to all Detachment members and get some commitments, so that the final details can be completed. This will be an **OUTSTANDING** trip at a reasonable cost. Please read the trip details which are attached to this newsletter. Make additional copies and pass them out at your next Detachment meeting. Let's fill a couple of planes with Missouri Marines and force march into the Nation's Capitol.

To date, no Detachment has indicated an interest in hosting the 2009 Department Convention. Any Detachment that is considering this activity needs to contact Sr. Vice Dan Ferrell as soon as possible, preferably prior to the March staff meeting.

I would encourage some of our newer Detachments to give this idea serious consideration. You don't have to have a large membership to host the convention, just hard working members. This is an excellent way to get lots of your members involved over the period of a year. Some might wish to organize the auction...others might want to work at the hospitality room, or the rifle match, or registration, or advertising, or planning the banquet. There can be a job for everyone and it's a great way to boost camaraderie within your Detachment. If you have an Auxiliary Unit, it's also a great opportunity for the ladies! The Department has a step-by-step guide available to help in planning the convention. So talk it up among your membership and then contact Sr. Vice Dan Ferrell to put in your bid !

The membership roster received from National Headquarters last week shows that we have 211 delinquent members statewide. Let's all work on trying to recover some of those who have gotten away from us this past year. I will discuss this more at our March meeting.

The location for our Staff meeting is at the Samuel F. Gearhart Detachment headquarters in Jefferson City. For those who have not been there yet, from Jefferson City you go west on Highway 50 and take the Apache Flats exit north for 1 block. The building will be on your left. Chow is served beginning at 0730. Remember, you can bring as many members of your Detachment Staff as you wish. It is good experience for your future officers and an opportunity to meet with and share ideas with other Detachment officers. See you in March !

Semper Fi,

Richard

Commandant

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Upcoming Events to post on your calendar:

- 1 March 2008 Department Staff Meeting, Jefferson City at 0900

- 18, 19, 20 April 2008 Midwest Division Spring Conference - Watertown, SD
Host: Watertown Detachment.
Registration materials available on the Dept. of Missouri website.

- 6, 7, 8 June 2008 Department of Missouri Convention
Host: Kansas City Detachment 766
Registration materials available on the Dept. of Missouri website.

