



The Newsletter of the Marine Corps League South Coast Detachment 022

Spring 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Dear Detachment Members, Friends & Supporters,

Needless to say, Calendar Year 2020 due to the ravages of the Coronavirus, the Economic Lockdowns, Business Failures, and resulting High Unemployment plus the disfunction caused by a polarized Political Environment, has created challenges that have not been seen since the Great Depression.

Non-Profit Charitable Organizations across the board, including your Marine Corps League-South Coast Detachment have been adversely affected, as normal fundraising activities which involve the congregation of people in one setting or another have had to be substantially, if not totally, curtailed.

In order to survive and to provide the Outreach our Marines and Families so desperately need, we, like our Marines, have had to "Adapt and Overcome." In addition to applying for and receiving two modest sized Grants, Sonia Torres, our Events & Outreach Chair, conducted two online Facebook Auctions during the second and third quarters which provided some meaningful results. Even more successful was our Thanksgiving Pie Donation Campaign which far exceeded our expectations and spelled doom for yours truly. Having reached and exceeded our Donation Goals I, never thinking we would meet our target, volunteered to take a Pie in the Face. Gleefully, my Bride Willa Porter made sure I honored this commitment. The before, during and after photographs are made available for your viewing pleasure. I'm happy we reached our goal and even though the pie splattered all over the place, it tasted really good.



*Before, During and After; Commandant Pete Hammer gets pie in the face by Willa Porter.
Photo: Mark Montgomery-Montgomery Photography*

As we proceeded through the Holiday Season, we were fortunate enough to receive Donations to support our Care Package Drive for our 1st Battalion, 4th Marines who are currently deployed off the coast of Somalia. We were also blessed with hundreds of unwrapped Christmas Gifts for our 9th Comm Battalion and 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Kids. So that our Teenage Kids and Young Single Marines were not left out, we distributed Gift Cards to the Teens as toys were being handed out. We then gave our barracks bound Single Marines Gift Cards, Socks and Cookies on Christmas Day. Needless to say, I am very proud of all those Detachment Members and Friends who volunteered to make this a very Merry Christmas for those we serve.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and thank Sonia & SgtMaj Al Torres, Evelin Bowman, Bill & Linh Murlless, Gary Henninger, Brittany Miller, Burton & Penelope Brown, Ken Brown, Mickey Christiason, Wayne Eggleston, Beverly Andrew, Mike & Kian Jesse, Bill Sandlin, Tony Faulkner, and Len Weber for all they did to make the first half of our Fiscal Year (July 1-Dec. 31) an Outreach Success.

Financially, we are on firm ground and well prepared to continue the support of the 2/1, 1/4, and School of Infantry Gung Ho Award Program.

As we progress through the latter part of 2021 and as the Pandemic Threat lifts, we will once again resume our normal Fundraising Activities. During the interim we would sincerely appreciate your Donating to help fund our Send-Off of the 2/1 in the late first quarter as part of the Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPAGTF) to be located in the Middle East. Contributions may be made via our Website or by sending your Check.

I, along with our Marines hope you have a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year. Thank You for always being there for those who are so deserving.

Semper Fidelis, Pete Hammer-Commandant THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE-SOUTH COAST DETACHMENT "BAND OF BROTHERS"

PAST OUTREACH AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS



Sonia Torres - Outreach & Events Chair

During the last half of 2020 Sonia Torres-Outreach & Events Chair and her Team put together an inordinate amount of Fundraising and Outreach Events which generated very positive results and helped put lots of smiles on our Marines' & Families' Faces.

The various Fundraising and Outreach efforts your MCL-SCD sponsored in the last six months are as follows:

- **Barth Massey's Daughter Funeral & Memorial**-Provided Patriotic Wreath, attended Memorial OC Tavern
- **Regularly Scheduled Detachment Zoom Meetings**
- **School of infantry Advanced Infantry & Advanced Assault Graduations**-Gung Ho/KA-Bar Awards delivered by Mike Brennan & Brittany Miller

- **Panera Bread Fundraiser** - Outlets at San Clemente

- Mickey Christiason -Outreach Ambassador **1st CEB Change of Command, Relief & Appointment, other Events**

- **Back to School Goodies Bags** -150 Delivered 2/1 & 9th Comm BN

- **Ruby's Fundraiser** - Outlets at San Clemente

- **Delivered Gatorade & Snacks to 2/1 Training** 29 Palms

- **9th Comm BN "Trunk or Treat"** Provided Goodies & Support



Mickey Christiason Outreach Ambassador



Back to school goodies bags



2/1 Marine - Family Drive-Thru Pie Pick Up.



- **Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser** -250 Pies Sponsored
- **Dana Point Turkey Trot Packet Pick Up** -Care Package & Cash Donations received
- **Dana Point Turkey Trot Co-Nonprofit Sponsor** - Received Donation from Chamber
- **1/4 Care Packages** -Procurement & Mailings - Evelin Bowman

- **Fred Himert Graveside Service** - El Toro Memorial Park-Attended and provided Patriotic Wreath

- Attended Outlets at San Clemente **"Cars & Coffee" Woody Car Club Toy Drive** - Received Toys & Cash Donations - Mickey Christiason & Ken Brown

- **MCL-SCD Marine Corps Birthday Dinner Celebration** - Luciana's Ristorante - 50 Attendees, Sponsored Marines & Spouses

- **GySgt Bob Harhay's Grave-side Service**-Attended and provided 2 large floral wreaths

- **Toy Collections** -12 Truck-loads delivered to Sonia Torres' home

- Dana Wharf- "Sum Fun" cruised in **DP Harbor Parade of Lights** with 30 Marines & Family Members aboard each night-2 Nights

- **MCL-SCD Christmas Party** -40 Attendees including 22 Sponsored Marines, Spouses, and Children

- **Toys plus Gift Cards for Teens** delivered to 2/1 and 9th Comm BN

- **100 Gift Cards Cookies & Socks** delivered to Single Marines in Barracks on Christmas Day



Fred Himert Graveside Service



Toy Collections for Christmas



Christmas Day: Single Marines in Barracks receiving Gift Card, Cookies & Socks

PLANNED ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND OUTREACH 2021

- Continue Regularly Scheduled **Zoom Meetings** until COVID 19 Threat Lifts
- Commence **2/1 SPMAGTF Deployment Send Off & Care Package Fundraising Campaign**
- Initiate Quarterly **Walmart Care Package Item Donation Campaign**
- Hold **Elections for and Installation of New Detachment Officers**
- Fund **Young Marines (Boys & Girls Ages 8-18) Activities**
- **Apply for Grants** where available - **Appoint a Grant Team Leader**
- Conduct a **Facebook Auction** in July
- Create **Virtual Fundraising Programs**
- With lifting of Pandemic Threat schedule a **BBQ, MCL-SCD Marine Corps Birthday Dinner & Christmas Party**
- Schedule **DP Harbor Boat Parade of Lights -2 Nights, 44 Marines & Families each night**
- Collect **Christmas Gifts** for distribution and raise money for **Teen & Single Marine Gift Cards**



Marines receive Care Packages



CP Kids with Christmas Gifts

DEPARTED DETACHMENT MEMBERS GUARDING HEAVEN'S GATE



Our Thoughts and Prayers are with those Detachment Members who have gone before us and are now Standing Guard at Heaven's Gate.

- Bob Bobst
- LtCol Richard Dietmeier -USMC (Ret)
- GySgt Robert Harhay -USMC (Ret)
- Fred Himert
- Robert Piel (Founding Member)
- LtCol Tom Vetter -USMC (Ret)
- LtCol Benjamin Williams-USMC (Ret)

COMMANDANT'S EDITORIAL -MEMBERSHIP -



Pete Hammer-Commandant

Currently we are fortunate to have **94** Regular and Associate Members on our Detachment Roles of which 34 are Life Members. For our Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Chaplains that is an earned right and for our Associate Members a Privilege. Upon entering our brotherhood and sisterhood we take an Oath to uphold the standards, virtues, and principals of our Marine Corps and how we will conduct ourselves as we participate in our Detachment's affairs.

In addition to celebrating and enjoying our comradery it is our individual obligation to fully participate, make a contribution, and make a difference for those that we serve. Our constituency includes our Active-Duty Marines and their Families plus our Detachment Membership and those Veterans that live in our surrounding communities.

To this end, when a New Member is admitted, **as are Existing Members who are just as accountable**, they should be prepared to become involved, be proactive, and in time, if they are well suited, take on Leadership Positions. It is as a result of this "Call to Action" that our Detachment will thrive, prosper and accomplish our multiple Missions for which we were founded. No longer can we just sit by and hope someone else will carry our load, it is time to shoulder our responsibilities and lead from the front.

I look forward to our New and Old Members alike taking these words to heart as it means being part of a Detachment that "Makes a Difference" versus becoming dormant without direction.

Let us move forward and not regress backward. The Challenge is yours to pick up and Advance the Flag.

Semper Fidelis, Pete Hammer-Commandant



HELPING OUR MCL-SCD BENEFACTORS

Our Restaurants, Businesses, and other Non-Profit Organizations have, as a result of the Coronavirus Threat, been through and continue to experience very difficult times. To help them survive we would respectfully request that you consider supporting these establishments the next time you have a need for their goods or services.

- Jack's Restaurant
- Stonefire Grill
- Pacific Sign Center
- Lantern Bay Realty
- Jimmy's Famous American Tavern
- Homefront America
- Coffee Importers-Scoop Deck
- Olamendi's
- The Shwack Beach Grill
- Docent Brewing
- Mark Montgomery Photography
- Dana Wharf Sports Fishing & Whale Watching
- San Clemente Elks Lodge No. 2068
- Café del Sol
- Laguna Cliffs Resort & Spa
- The Harbor Grill
- Waterman's Harbor, Stillwater, Sunsets
- Casanova Ristorante
- Ricardo's Place
- Luxe Restaurant
- Stacks Pancake House
- Brew Ha Ha
- Contrex, Inc.
- Doheny Village Hand Car Wash
- Minuteman Press
- Mission Country Escrow
- Woody Hut
- The Brig
- Luciana's Ristorante
- Proud Mary's
- RJ's Café
- Turks
- Safe Tax & Business Services
- Parrot Video Service

NEW MEMBERS *WELCOME ABOARD!*

Maj Mary Close
George Garcia
Vincent Hildreth
Robert McNeal

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Beverly Andrew
Heather Broberg
Leigh Dick
Kian Jesse
Elizabeth Villafana

Mailing Address:

Marine Corps League-South Coast Detachment
P.O. Box 3775, San Clemente, CA 92674-3775
Phone: Pete Hammer Commandant (949) 378-7984

*If you wish to support our cause,
please Donate via our Secure PayPal Link or
Check by mail to PO Box (memo: Purpose of Donation).*

The Marine Corps League is a Congressionally Chartered Non-Profit Organization covered under IRS Ruling 501(c) 4 Group Exemption Number 0955 and the South Coast Detachment under Employer Identification Number 33-0450163.

DETACHMENT OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<i>Commandant</i>	Pete Hammer
<i>Sr. Vice Commandant</i>	Randy McMahon
<i>Jr. Vice Commandant</i>	Gary Henninger
<i>Judge Advocate</i>	Tony Faulkner
<i>Adjutant</i>	Len Weber
<i>Sergeant-At-Arms</i>	Jim Harkins
<i>Paymaster/Finances</i>	Pete Hammer
<i>Chaplain</i>	Brittany Miller
<i>Junior Past Commandant</i>	Ken Brown

<i>Procurement/Fundraising</i>	Sonia Torres & Pete Hammer
<i>Outreach/Events</i>	Sonia Torres
<i>Outreach Ambassador</i>	Mickey Christiason
<i>Logistics</i>	Duane Matthews & Bob Murlless
<i>Good of the Order Raffle</i>	Freddie Banks
<i>Young Marines Liaison</i>	Tony Faulkner
<i>Communications</i>	Pete Hammer