



The

Kettle Moraine Marine

August 2011 Serving the Kettle Moraine area since 2005 Vol VII Issue 8
Commandant: Jim Ramage Kettle Moraine Det, MCL#1203 Editor: Jason Waier



**Marine to receive
The Medal of Honor!**

**Sgt. Dakota Meyer to be
presented MOH for actions
in Afghanistan!**



**Our next Meeting will be held: 7pm, MONDAY August 22nd, 2011!
It will be conducted at Moraine Park Technical College North Campus in West Bend.
Hope to see you there!**

Newsletter Highlights

Cover: *Marine to be awarded Medal of Honor*

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66th Anniversary of nuclear bombing

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2011-2012 Detachment Officers

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Newsletter Editor

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(262) 623-1417

Flag History Team

George Wujcik
(262) 338-8426

Calendar of Events (subject to change)

Aug 22 1900 Regular Det Meeting, MPTC West Bend

**Sep 1 Deadline for your Patriotic
Photo Contest submission**

Sep 2 Deadline for Newsletter Input

Sep 5 Labor Day

Sep 10 Second Annual House of Harley/Fisher House
Benefit Ride in Milwaukee

Mar 17-18 MCL State Convention Hosted by KetMorDet

NEWSLETTER INFO

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THE KETTLE MORaine MARINE Newsletter is normally published prior to monthly scheduled meetings for the information and use of Detachment Members. Articles and letters are invited but the Editor retains the right to edit any submission. Submit typed materials or photographs marked for the Newsletter to the Editor by the first Monday of the month using either e-mail: jwaier@charter.net or snail mail to 2235 Sylvan Way Apt #6 West Bend, WI 53095. Annual donation for ads is \$100 for a single block and \$175 for a double. Half or full page ads are also available.

Editor: Jason Waier (262) 623-1417

See the Newsletter and other Detachment info at www.ketmordet.com



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Kettle Moraine Detachment 1203, Marine Corps League
Minutes of Meeting Held July 18, 2011
20 Members Present!

The meeting was held at Moraine Park Technical College, West Bend, Wisconsin. The Commandant called the meeting to order at 1900. This was the largest meeting we've had in some time, with twenty members in attendance and all officers present! Sergeant at Arms posted the colors, and the Chaplain opened the meeting with a prayer, the bible is open.

Roll Call of Officers

Commandant: Jim Ramage
Sr. Vice Commandant: Danny O'Toole
Jr. Vice Commandant: John Stern
Adjutant: Paul Schleif
Judge Advocate: Charlie Keller

Paymaster: Roger Cross
Chaplain: George Wujcik
Sergeant at Arms: Bill Wallace
Historian: Jason Waier

Other Members Attending

Other members in attendance were Steve Chantelois, Dan Coulter, John Fleischman, Carl Heiman, George Kaczmarek, John Krause, Gil Lucka, Chris and Rollie Moericke, Fritz Montag, Barry Oelerich, Hugo Straub and Ken Unertl.

New Members and Guests

No new members or guests were in attendance at the meeting.

Reading of the Minutes

George Kaczmarek motioned, with Charlie Keller seconding, to accept the minutes from last month's meeting as published in the newsletter. The motion passed.

Paymasters Report

Roger continues to be busy looking out for the financial welfare of our detachment! In light of favorable interest rates a CD was moved to State Bank Newburg upon renewal. Roger also renewed our P.O. box rental at the post office. Three members renewed along with one new member joining up which brings our roster to 44 total.

A motion was made by Bill Wallace and seconded by Fritz Montag to accept the paymasters report; the motion passed. Thanks Roger.

Chaplains Report

No detachment members are known to be ill or in distress at this time.

Correspondence Received or Delivered

The detachment received a very nice card from Andrew Simek thanking us for his Eagle award certificate and gift card we presented to him. He will be continuing his education in Oshkosh, as well as staying in the area helping other scouts and staying active in the scouting community. Well-done Andrew!

We also received a really nice plaque thanking our detachment for sponsoring our Allenton Little League team this year. The guys look great! Thank-you very much!

Report of Standing Committees

Junior Vice Commandant: Other than his report in the newsletter John would like to congratulate our members that participated in the fund-raising events this past month. Well-done!

Flag History Presentation Team: The flag history presentation crew will be working at the County Fair on the 27th of July for Veteran's Appreciation Day.

Color Guard: Our color guard recently led the Fourth of July parade here in West Bend, as well as presenting the colors at Slinger Raceway and they have been looking good and much appreciated.

Continued on Page 7 3



**STOP BY AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW
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The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is reaching out to inform Veterans of recent changes made by Congress to the Post 9/11 GI Bill that take effect in 2011.

The Post 9/11 GI Bill is incredibly important because it reduces the financial burdens of higher education so that Veterans have an opportunity to achieve their education goals. VA believes it is important for Veterans to be aware of changes to the GI Bill this year and learn more about how these changes may affect them.

Upcoming changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill effective August 1, 2011 include paying the actual net cost of all public in-state tuition and fees, rather than basing payments upon the highest in-state tuition and fee rates for every state; capping private and foreign tuition at \$17,500 per academic year; and ending payments during certain school breaks, to preserve Veterans' entitlement for future academic semesters. Also, certain students attending private schools in select states can now continue to receive benefits at the same rate payable during the previous academic year.

Beginning October 1, 2011, eligible individuals will be able to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for programs such as non-college degrees, on-the-job training, and correspondence courses, and they will be eligible to receive a portion of the national monthly housing allowance rate when enrolled only in distance learning courses.

VA is implementing the latest round of changes to the Post 9/11 GI Bill and has already begun processing fall 2011 enrollment certifications. Outreach by

VA has helped to increase participation by colleges and universities in the Yellow Ribbon program, which helps students avoid out-of-pocket costs that may exceed the benefit. Today, more than 2,600 schools are participating in the Yellow Ribbon program.

Complete information on the Post-9/11 GI Bill is available at: **www.gibill.va.gov**. VA's education information phone # is: 1-888-GIBILL-1.

For ongoing benefit information, Veterans and Servicemembers can log into the VA eBenefits website: **www.eBenefits.va.gov** To ask a question in a secure e-mail, use the "Ask a Question" tab.

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and reiterated Japan's promise to never repeat the horrors of Hiroshima, whose suffering continues today because of illnesses passed down over generations.

Japan has long vowed never to make or possess nuclear weapons, but embraced nuclear power as it aimed to rebuild and modernize after the war.

Crowds of people clutching Buddhist prayer beads bowed their heads Saturday in commemorating the dead as pigeons were released during the solemn gathering repeated every year before the skeletal dome of a bomb-ravaged building.

The prime minister, in his speech, also touched on Japan's more recent nuclear catastrophe at the northeastern Fukushima Dai-ichi power plant, where a massive tsunami set off by a 9.0 magnitude earthquake on March 11 knocked out backup generators that powered the plant's cooling mechanisms.

Kan repeated a promise to embrace renewable energy and rely less on nuclear power.

"Japan is also working to revise its energy policy from scratch," Kan said. "I deeply regret believing in the security myth of nuclear power."

Hiroshima mayor Kazumi Matsui stopped short of calling for a nation without nuclear power while reiterating his pledge to work toward a world without atomic weapons.

But he acknowledged that the trust people had in the safety of nuclear power had been damaged.

"Some seek to abandon nuclear power altogether with the belief that Mankind cannot co-exist with nuclear energy, while others demand stricter regulation of nuclear power and more renewable energy," he said.

Japan's Hiroshima City Marks Atomic Bombing

August 06, 2011
Associated Press/by Koji Sasahara

HIROSHIMA, Japan -- The Japanese city of Hiroshima on Saturday marked the 66th anniversary of the bombing, as the nation fights a different kind of disaster from atomic technology - a nuclear plant in a meltdown crisis after being hit by a tsunami.

The site of the world's first A-bomb attack observed a moment of silence at 8:15 a.m. Saturday (2315 GMT Friday) - the time the bomb was dropped on Aug. 6, 1945, by the United States in the last stages of World War II.

The bomb destroyed most of the city and killed as many as 140,000 people. A second atomic bombing Aug. 9 that year in Nagasaki killed tens of thousands more and prompted the Japanese to surrender.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan on Saturday laid a wreath of yellow flowers at

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Report of Officers and Committee Chairs

In order to expedite the regular monthly meeting, all Officers and standing committee chairs are afforded the opportunity to provide their input to the Newsletter by the first Monday of each month. Members are also welcome to submit something. This will enable all Members to review items of interest and reduce discussion at the meetings. Additionally, it provides any Member who is unable to make it to a regular meeting, the opportunity to remain abreast of current Detachment activities. Any submission may be edited and use depends on available space.

Commandant Jim Ramage reports:
Nothing reported

Sr Vice Danny O'Toole Reports:
Hello Marines.

I sit here today basking in the glow of a military birthday. No, not our Corps. We all know that is celebrated on 10 November each year.

The birthday I speak about is the 221st birthday of the United States Coast Guard on 4 August 2011.

This is important to me because I served 26 years in the Coast Guard Reserve and was deployed to Desert Shield/Storm with the USCGR in Saudi Arabia.

Prior to deployment in that little "dust-up", my unit trained in combat skills at Quantico, VA, with the active duty Marines forces.

Yes, there were a few raised eye brows when 110 USCGR personnel, most with gray hair, reported aboard for combat skills training with Marine instructors younger than some of our grandchildren.

The young Marine Lieutenant Colonel who welcomed us aboard Quantico surprised us all by speaking

of the close affinity, born of combat, between the Coast Guard & the Marine Corps.

This man knew his history and spoke of the hundreds of Coast Guard coxswains that manned the landing craft in every major pacific campaign.

The Colonel then went on to speak of the only Coast Guard recipient of the Medal of Honor SM1c DOUGLAS A. MUNRO who received the medal for his actions on Guadalcanal September 27, 1942.

SM1c Munro led a section of boats that landed a detachment of Marines on a remote beach where opposition was thought to be light. As the Marines landed they immediately came in contact with Japanese forces that turned out to be much larger than anticipated.

An order was issued to recover the landing force and SM1c Munro led his boat section back towards the beach coming under intense enemy fire.

Disregarding the fire SM1c Munro directed the five boat section in recovering all but a few of the Marines.

Seeing that those few Marines were wading towards the boats in chest high water and under direct enemy fire, SM1c Munro steered his boat to a point between the beach and the wading Marines, deflecting the enemy machine gun fire to his own boat thus allowing those Marines to clamber aboard other boats in the section.

It was while protecting these last Marines that SM1c Munro was struck by enemy fire. His last words were "Did they all get off?" He is buried in his

hometown of South Cle Elum, Washington.

I can't tell you how much pride I felt while listening to the Colonel, knowing that I have been a member of both of these distinguished military services.

I can say that not too many "Coasties" had to buy a drink at the "slop chute" aboard Quantico during that training cycle. Happy Birthday USCG.

Semper FI, Danny O'Toole

Judge Advocate Charlie Keller reports:
Nothing new to report

Honor Guard/Jr Vice John Stern reports:


Support the Troops Packages:
On July 26th a package weighing 12lbs 10 oz was sent out to Sgt Gonwa serving overseas. His mother had given us his name at a recent WalMart fundraiser. On Aug 8th Sgt Gonwa sent an email stating he had recieved the package and thanked everyone for their support!

Newsletter Editor Jason Waier reports:

Marines! During last months meeting an inquiry was made regarding policy on helping members out withing the Detachment in cases of emergencies. I found several cases noted in the Minutes going as far back as Dec 2007 where it is noted that if a member is in distress they need to contact the Chaplain for help. This was first put into action in Jan 2009 when the Det helped out a former Marines family, and again in Dec of 2009.

Continued on page 6

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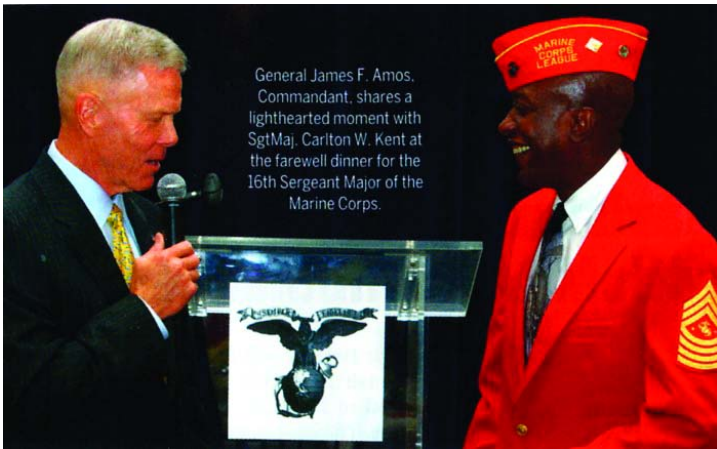
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General James F. Amos, Commandant, shares a lighthearted moment with SgtMaj. Carlton W. Kent at the farewell dinner for the 16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

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TO BE FUNNY,
FOLKS!
Michael A. Blum
Executive Director
Marine Corps
League

Many of you have seen the above picture in the last issue of Semper Fi. There has been several comments made about what Sgt Maj Kent is wearing and the pins on his Marine Corps League cover. Although it could have been handled better, here is what MCL National HQ has sent out...

Marines,

Here is a response from the Executive Director on the picture of SgtMaj. Kent in the Semper Fi Magazine. Please share this with your members.

Semper Fi

Nik Makaroff

NVC, Central Division

The Commandant of the Marine Corps gave the Blazer and Cover to the Sergeant Major as a joke!

The Commandant asked us to provide him with a blazer and a cover so that he could "rib" the Sergeant Major about going into "retirement", at a private party the night before his retirement ceremony.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps had the Sergeant Major's chevrons, etc. attached to the blazer and cover. If you take the time to read the caption next to the photo, it says "in a lighthearted moment".

I would like to think that our membership would be proud that the Marine Corps League was important enough to CMC and SMCC that we were a part of this.

We decided to share the photo with our readers because IT WAS SUPPOSED

Continued from Officer Comments on Page 5

As noted in the Jan 2010 Newsletter though the Detachment felt that it *"is not good practice and is not what the good people of our communities would like to hear about what their donations were used for. John Stern made a motion to not get involved with the personal finances of any Member. The Det may still cover the dues for one year if a Member is not financially able to, and the Membership would be willing to help out with manual labor if a Member so needs (household chores, rides to the doctor, shopping, etc). However the Det will not loan, or donate money to a Member. Motion seconded by Steve Chantelois. Motion passed. This motion is not to say we are going to forget our Members or their families. There will never be a Member pushed aside without help. The help will come from within the Membership itself, not from its Detachment bank account."* Marines helping Marines. I hope this answers what I understood the question to be. If not we will need to re-visit it at the next meeting.

Back in the Dec 2010 newsletter I had posted a story on the actions of (then) Cpl Dakota Meyer and that he was being recommended for the Medal of Honor. In July he received a phone call from President Obama stating he will be the first living Marine in over 3 decades to be awarded the Medal. A specific date had not been posted as of this writing, but it is expected to happen in September. I will try to

post more of his story ,and his actions in next months newsletter.

I am still holding out hope that someone will step forward to take over the newsletter. Time is winding down though. PLEASE if you are even the slightest interested let me know. I will be happy to work with you while you get your feet wet.

Semper Fi

Jason Waier

The Water Study Continues....

Did you work or live at Camp Lejeune or Camp Pendleton in the 1970's or '80's? The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), in partnership with the U.S. Marine Corps, is administering one of the largest health surveys ever conducted in public health history. Your input is crucial. If you get a survey please fill it out and return it.

The survey will be mailed to 300,000 people between June and December 2011. Those eligible for the survey include a sample of former Marines or sailors who were stationed at Camp Lejeune anytime from 1975 - 1985, civilian employees who worked there anytime during 1972 - 1985, those who were part of the previous 1999-2002 ATSDR survey, and those who registered with the USMC before June 15, 2011 to participate in the survey, as well as a sample of people who lived or worked at Camp Pendleton.

These surveys will help ATSDR and the U.S. Marine Corps understand how environmental and chemical exposures affect human health.

The survey will ask participants about dates and locations of when and where they lived or worked at Camp Lejeune or Camp Pendleton, as well as their work history and health.

ATSDR will offer the survey in both paper copy and web-based version. The findings are expected to be released in early 2014. **Additional information is available at http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune/health_survey.html**

Continued from Page 3

A sign-up sheet was at the meeting for the Veterans Day events at the county fair on July 27th. The flag is raised at 0900, followed by events throughout the day. If you are available and have the time come on out and participate with the detachment. I would be remiss here if I didn't mention two members of the detachment that have been putting some extra effort into this event. First of all, Jason took the time to make up some flyers about our detachment and membership applications that people can just pick up and take with them. These items really look professional and nice and will be going on our display table at the fair. In addition Chris Moericke has some terrific display items he can bring from his Marine experience overseas and here. I want to express the sincere gratitude of the entire detachment for the work and time you both are willing to give to this function and our organization. Well-done, and thank-you! A big note of thanks also goes to Dan Colter (I believe, I hope I'm right) who is helping in organizing all of this.

The Color Guard does have one event on their horizon-that is the Allenton Parade August 21st. Step-off is at 1130. A sign-up sheet was made out for this event also.

Fundraising: There were two excellent fundraising efforts since our last meeting; one at WalMart and another at Miller Park. Thanks to all the detachment members who participated in these events. We have two fundraisers in August, the 12th at West Bend WalMart and also a repeat trip to Miller Park on the 13th. Sign-up sheets were available for available members.

Old Business

Jim could use some help looking and arranging for a place to hold the upcoming state convention next year. He is really busy, and any assistance would be appreciated! For the state conference we need a room that is at least big enough for 30-40 people. In addition the banquet room needs to be at least 70X80 in size.

New Business

Jason commented that he had investigated the cost of ordering some new red t-shirts for people that go out fund raising for the detachment. The shirt prices begin at 7.50 each, and slightly more for larger sizes than XL. A motion was made by Dan Coulter and seconded by John Krause to purchase 48 of these shirts. The motion passed. During the meeting there was further discussion regarding should we actually buy 48 or should we possibly get less? After sign-up for sizing and people who may want to buy extras, the amount will be evaluated to see what the final would be, but we can order up to 48 of them.

The question was raised as to whether our detachment has a "policy manual", a document, or set of standard procedures on what the detachment should do for a given situation, or what amount of cash help should be considered for a starting number for a specific hardship or disaster-for example, how much help in money should be considered for a member whose house is blown away by a tornado? Roger and Jason are going to look into this. I remember at one time the detachment did document a list of charities that we would like to help out with donations for service to the community so things such as that do get written up. The information will be checked for!

Good of the League

Charlie Keller gave an excellent talk on taking ownership of our detachment and members should step forward to assume duties and jobs when they are able. He expressed the all too real point that we have a detachment where there are very few members willing to take on positions of leadership and organization and we wind up with a select few individuals doing all of the work to keep the organization going. Charlie this was well-said, and he is rightfully concerned about things. Jim described how national is making an effort to put job descriptions on the web now so that when people hear of a need to fill a position, they can simply look on-line and get an idea of what their qualifications need to be. John K raised the idea for beginning at the start of the year; perhaps our detachment should organize some goals and objectives to strive for throughout the season. This could add more structure to our scheduling and fund-raising, and I think it's an excellent idea.

Plans are being made to erect a Chesty Puller statue in Quantico. They are going to be selling bricks in a fund raising effort; they should be 210.00 dollars each. More information will be forthcoming on this endeavor.

Danny O'Toole talked about the Marine Corps foundation, an organization that helps pay for the education of the children of Marines who were KIA. This sounds like an excellent charity to pursue and add to our list.

Jim mentioned that the VVA is having a brat fry at the BP in Newburg August 13th. In addition to selling brats, they will be raffling off some meat! The drawing will be in October, so if your meat locker isn't quite as full as you would like it to be, get out there and buy some tickets!

Meeting Closed

With no further business to conduct, the Commandant gave the order to close the meeting at 2005. The Sergeant at Arms retired the colors and the Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The Senior Vice Commandant thanked all members for attending and asked that they secure new members. The Marine Hymn was sung in closing the meeting. The Bible is closed.

Respectfully submitted by:
Paul Schleif, Adjutant

Editors Note: As noted in last months Newsletter and Meeting. I am looking for your Patriotic Photos. The deadline for all submissions will be September 1st. Either email them to me jwaier@charter.net or bring them them to the August Meeting. Please refer to the July Newsletter for more contest info!



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Welcome to "Heat U.P. Wisconsin" where neighbors are helping neighbors!

For the second year in a row, Wisconsin & Upper Peninsula Lennox Dealers, their employees and Lennox International are teaming up again this fall to "Heat U.P. Wisconsin"!

Last year, 72 high-efficiency, Energy Star rated Lennox gas furnaces were installed by Wisconsin Dealers & donated by Lennox Heating & Cooling to deserving families and homeowners in Wisconsin who had fallen on tough times. The campaign achieved tremendous success and in response to that success, Lennox and the Wisconsin and U.P. dealers have committed to providing 100 furnaces for the 2011 Heat U.P. Wisconsin campaign, which will expand to include families and Lennox dealers in Michigan's Upper Peninsula!



Last year's campaign not only helped the many families in need; it also helped raise awareness to the Lennox brand while it showcased the unmatched commitment of the independent Lennox dealers in Wisconsin..... dealers who clearly provide more than products and services to the communities they live and work in. No catch - just neighbors helping neighbors.

The Wisconsin & U.P. Heating & Cooling Lennox Dealers are looking to the great people of Wisconsin & the U.P. to help find those families who need help. By September 15, 2011 share with us via the "Submission Entry" section online at <http://www.heatupwisconsin.com/>, your story of a family you know that needs help.

Selections will then be made between September 16, 2011 and September 30, 2011. Those selected will then be contacted and the installations will occur October 1, just in time before the cold sets in.

Deadline for submissions is September 15, 2011.




As I began this month's newsletter word had gotten out that a helicopter carrying 30 US troops (most of which were members of SEAL Team 6) and 8 Afghans had crashed killing all. I put this note here so that we may all pray for their families and remember those souls that gave their all protecting their brothers in arms. Lost in the news of the helicopter crash is the fact that 11 Soldiers and 8 Marines have also given their lives just since the beginning of the month! I ask that you also keep these families in your prayers and thoughts. Semper Fi Brothers! May you all rest in peace!

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Have you ever been convicted of a felony? YES NO If yes is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

(X) I hereby apply for membership in the #1203 Kettle Moraine Detachment, Marine Corps League and enclose \$ _____ for one year's membership.*

-OR-

() I hereby apply for membership in the Marine Corps League as a Member-at-Large (MAL), and enclose \$30 for one year's membership.*

*Includes free subscription to "Semper Fi", The Magazine of the Marine Corps League

I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps, on active duty, for not less than ninety (90) days * or have served or am currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points or that I have served or am currently serving as a U. S. Navy Corpsman who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon authorized for FMF Corpsmen. If discharged, I am in receipt of an honorable discharge or DD 214. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. "Honorable service" will be defined by the last DD-214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received. General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable. I hereby authorize the National Executive Director, Marine Corps League to obtain a copy of my latest DD-214 from the National Personnel Records Center if deemed necessary to verify my eligibility for regular membership in the Marine Corps League.

(*Korean War Era Marines See National Bylaws, Article 6, Section 600) (*Korean War Era Marines See National Bylaws, Article 6, Section 600)

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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 to: Marine Corps League, National Headquarters, P.O. Box 3070, Merrifield, VA 22116-3070.