



**2021 MCL 97th National Convention
Springfield, Illinois
8-14 August 2021**

Reminder

The MCL National Library website contains documents supporting the presentations made during the week of the 2021 MCL National Convention. The documents are located under the Convention and Legislative tabs at

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/> .

Overview

The information below is comprised of notes that I made while at the 2021 MCL 97th National Convention.

09 August 2021

Howard Schaeffer of the **MCL Foundation** updated members on the activities of the foundation.

<https://www.mclfoundation.org/>

Chapel of the Four Chaplains

The Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation's vision is to impart the principles of selfless service to humanity without regard to race, creed, ethnicity, gender, or religious beliefs.

The Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation exists to further the cause of “unity without uniformity” by encouraging goodwill and cooperation among all people. The organization achieves its mission by advocating for and honoring people whose deeds symbolize the legacy and heroic deeds of the Four Chaplains aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester in 1943. <http://fourchaplains.org/>

Budget Committee Report

The Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year: 1 July 2021 -30 June 2022 was discussed. A motion to accept was approved. Note: Unpaid members are costing an average loss of \$175,000 a year to the League. Motion to accept the budget was approved.

Marines Four Life

Presentation was made
<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/M4L-Presentation.pdf>)

Note: All MCL Departments and Detachments are required to have a Liaison for the M4L program. If you have not complied please do so as soon as possible.

<https://www.usmc-mccs.org/services/career/marine-for-life-network/>

Additional resources:

Focus Marines <https://focusmarines.org/>

Marines Helping Marines

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/helping-marines-family/>

VETERANS CRISIS LINE

<HTTP://WWW.VETERANSCRISISLINE.NET/>

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE FOUNDATION [HTTPS://MCA-MARINES.ORG/FOUNDATION/](https://MCA-MARINES.ORG/FOUNDATION/)
TEAM RED, WHITE & BLUE [HTTPS://WWW.TEAMRWB.ORG/](https://WWW.TEAMRWB.ORG/)
VETS 4 WARRIORS [HTTPS://WWW.VETS4WARRIORS.COM/](https://WWW.VETS4WARRIORS.COM/)
HIRING OUR HEROES
[HTTPS://WWW.HIRINGOURHEROES.ORG/](https://WWW.HIRINGOURHEROES.ORG/)
TEAM RUBICON [HTTPS://TEAMRUBICONUSA.ORG/](https://TEAMRUBICONUSA.ORG/)
IRREVERENT WARRIORS
[HTTPS://WWW.IRREVERENTWARRIORS.COM/](https://WWW.IRREVERENTWARRIORS.COM/)

MCL Public Relations Victoria McCoy, Chair, reported -
<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/PR-Committee-Report-2021.pdf>

The **Commandant's Corner** notifications are placed on Facebook via Zoom and is open to all members.

The use of social media is recommended for all MCL Departments and Detachments. YouTube is used under the title Marine Corps League National Headquarters.

The Facebook Boost might be worthwhile to many for reaching more of the community in your area at minimal costs.

Zoom meetings are good for reaching your members especially during times such as community health issues like COVID.

National SVC Johnny Baker conducted the **Department Commandant's Council** meeting.

The Chain of Command is to be used by all members. The chain of command starts at the Detachment level elected officers. If additional support or guidance is

requested the Officers will reach out to their Departments for assistance.

The Mideast Division Departments present during the Commandant's Council were Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina and West Virginia.

MCL Executive Director/COO Bob Borka provided information on the Database and Transmittal Form. The old or new transmittal form may be used at the present time. The new form holds up to fifty members on one form. All Detachment and Department Commandants and by now Paymasters should have updated the Database with correct and current membership information.

The MCL National is currently using an online payment system for various functions. Please ensure that all members review the entire document.

The Death Notice has been updated to ensure that JD Foster receives the member's death information.

Checking IRS status <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/CHECKING-IRS-STATUS-1.pdf>

Complete Executive Director/COO report

https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/COO-Report_2021.pdf

10 August 2021

Credential Committee Report presented by Teresa Terry. A total of 609 Delegates attended the 2021 MCL National Convention. The Mideast Division had a total of 53 Marines- DE 1, NC 27, MD 17, WV 8 and VA 0.

National SVC Johnny Baker presented his report to the members. <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/National-SrVice-Report-2021.pdf>

National JA TJ Morgan presented his report to the members. There were 70 Chapter 9 Grievance Reviews. It is requested that general grievances be kept at the local as much as possible to facilitate the conflict resolution of the complaint. If the complaint goes to National it will end up costing funds to the Department.

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/NJA-2021-Report.pdf>

Devell Durham, Chair of Youth Fitness reported that the Covid 19 had impacted the activities Nationally.

<https://usmarinesyouthfoundation.org/national-ypf-program>

Executive Director/COO Bob Borka presented the proposed Resolution reference Medal of Honor recipient from World War II Lying in State. A motion was made, Roger Ware seconded and all approved.

https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Resolution_01-2021_Lying-in-State.pdf

Executive Director/COO Bob Borka provided information on the **2021 Modern Day Marine Expo 21-23 September 2021** at Quantico, VA.

<https://marinemilitaryexpos.com/modern-day-marine/home/>

Military Oder of the Devil Dogs information may be found at <https://militaryorderofthedevildogs.org/>

Commandant Dennis Tobin presented his report. <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/National-Commandant-Report-2021.pdf>

2021 PROPOSALS FOR BYLAWS AND ADMIN PROCEDURES

All proposals were discussed by the Bylaws Committee and members present.

- 1- Rejected**
- 2- Accepted/Approved**
- 3- Accepted/Approved**
- 4- Rejected**
- 5- Pulled**
- 6- Accepted, Revised Dept. Amend Article to 8/Approved**
- 7- Accepted, Revised Det. Amend Article to 8/Approved**
- 8- Accepted/Approved**
- 9- Accepted/Approved**
- 10- Pulled**
- 11- Accepted/Approved**
- 12- Rejected**
- 13- Rejected**
- 14- Rejected**
- 15- Rejected**
- 16- Rejected**
- 17- Accepted – Amend last line/Approved**
- 18- Accepted/Approved**

- 19- Rejected
- 20- Accepted/Approved
- 21- Accepted/Approved
- 22- Pulled
- 23- Accepted-Motion to Reject- No Committee Motion to membership Amended Star to A on Ribbon/Approved
- 24- Accepted as amended/Approved
- 25- Pulled
- 26- Accepted/Approved
- 27- Pulled
- 28- Pulled
- 29- Pulled
- 30- Pulled
- 31- Accepted/Approved
- 32- Accepted/Approved
- 33- Pulled
- 34- Accepted- Spelling Modified/Approved
- 35- Accepted- after discussion referred back to the Committee.
- 36- Pulled
- 37- Pulled
- 38- Pulled
- 39- Accepted – much discussion- Vote rejected
- 40- Pulled
- 41- Accepted – Rejected on Vote
- 42- Accepted/Approved
- 43- Rejected
- 44- Rejected
- 45- Rejected

**46- Rejected- Amended to add to Enclosure 3
/Accepted/Approved**

**47- Rejected- Amended to add to Enclosure 3
/Accepted/Approved**

**48- Rejected – needs further discussion by the Committee
Awards Committee – Americanism, Marksmanship, JVC,
Newsletter**

Mideast Department awards -

**National Meritorious Commendation (Unit) - DE, MD, NC,
WV, VA**

**National Newsletter Competition – Third Place –
Platoon Strength awarded to William Dunn – Editor of the
Carry-on Detachment #1236, Department of North Carolina**

**National Jr Vice Commandant Award to Detachments
that maintained their membership at 100%+ in the last
year. The citations were given to the Department
Commandants for distribution to their Detachments that
were awarded.**

**Most Notable Citation in the Mideast-
Category 201- Plus, 3rd Place 2021 – Lynchburg Area, VA
Detachment #759, 105.54%**

12 August 2021

MCL Foundation

**An overview of expenditures, Income and Scholarship
was provided. If possible, the MCL Foundation would like to**

have each Detachment send \$100 to the Foundation for financial assistance. <https://www.mclfoundation.org/>

990 Filings and Non-Profit Reinstatement discussed by Ray Sturm.

How to Reinstatement Step by step process to regain tax exempt status - at the bottom of the page.

<https://militaryorderofthedevildogs.org/publications/>

Checking IRS Status -

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/CHECKING-IRS-STATUS-1.pdf>

Convention/Conference Committee Report was presented by **Howard Schaeffer**. The reservations for the 2022 MCL National Convention in Daytona Beach, FL are now open.

2022 NATIONAL CONVENTION

HILTON Daytona Beach OCEANFRONT HOTEL

**100 NORTH ATLANTIC AVENUE, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA
32118**

**HOTEL AVAILABILITY THURSDAY 8/11/22 – SATURDAY
8/20/22**

Opening Ceremony Monday 8/15/22

Grand Banquet on Friday 8/19/22

**Room Rates: \$142.88 per night (Includes sales tax 6.5%
and occupancy tax 6.0%)**

**Self-Parking: \$21.30 per car per night (includes 6.5% sales
tax)**

**Valet Parking: \$31.95 per car per night (includes 6.5% sales
tax)**

1-800-774-1500 Code: MCL22

2022 National Midwinter Conference reservations are available

2022 Midwinter Conference – Norfolk, VA

[Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel](#)

777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510

[RESERVATION LINK](#)

[Reservations: 1-800-325-3535 or call the hotel direct at \(757\) 622-6664](#)

2/24/2022 – 2/26/2022 (check in 2/23, check out 2/27)

Room Rate: \$129 + tax

Tax Rate: \$14%

Resort Charge: \$3.00

Parking: Complimentary Self-Parking if staying at hotel, otherwise its \$13 per day. Valet Parking is \$26 per day

Breakfast: Complimentary 2 per room daily

Any cancellations after February 10, 2021 will forfeit the one night deposit (2022 cancellation period will be posted as information is available).

It has been determined that Uber or Taxi are the best methods of transport from the airport

Thursday arrivals & stores are open in the afternoon

Friday opening session & agenda items

Saturday sessions continue

Banquet Attire: Formal

Sunday travel day

2023 MCL National Convention

The bids for the 2023 MCL National Convention were Albany, NY and Oklahoma City, OK. The membership present at the convention listened to the presentations and a motion

was made for the 2023 MCL national Convention to be held in Oklahoma City, OK. A vote was taken and approved by the members.

The 2023 MCL National Convention will be 14-21 August 2023 at the OMNI Oklahoma City HOTEL.

https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/oklahoma-city?utm_source=gmblisting&utm_medium=organic

Reservations will not be available until after the close of the 2022 MCL National Convention in August 2022.

605 Guest Rooms & Suites, Wi-Fi,
7 Dining Outlets, Full-service Spa,
Expansive Pool Deck, Modern Fitness Center with Pelotons,
Lobby Bar, 76,000 sq. ft. of event space.

Base reservation cost \$145.00 all-inclusive with public parking \$175.48 and with valet parking \$193.48

Pet friendly with fee.

Refrigerator in all rooms but not microwaves.

Will Rogers Airport

Twin Fountains RV Park is 15 minutes away

<https://www.bricktownokc.com/>

Opened in 2021

Additional detailed information will be forthcoming from the Department of Oklahoma

Nomination of National Officers was conducted.

Candidates

Commandant Johnny Baker

SVC Warren Griffin

JVC T.J. Morgan

JA Bob Zelt and Phil Zamora

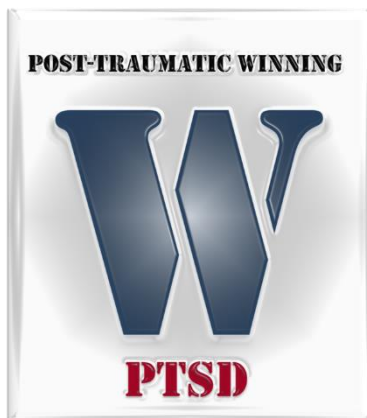
13 August 2021

Evelyn Joppa, President Marine Corps League Auxiliary, reported. Message from the National President

<https://nationalmcla.org/>

Michael McNamara, President of ALL MARINE RADIO, made a presentation about the reduction of suicides and dealing with PTSD. The All Marine Radio is an internet based radio station which is dedicated to the culture of the Marine Corps and the concept of reducing veteran suicide through greater post-combat related mental health awareness. ALL MARINE RADIO began broadcasting on June 2, 2016 and airs LIVE programming from 8:00-9:00 AM Pacific Time, Monday through Friday and streams its own audio 24/7.

<https://allmarineradio.com/>



<https://posttraumaticwinning.com/>

The 3 Goals & 10 Commandments of Post-Traumatic Winning

- 1) **We don't "get over" the things that traumatize us**
 - Neither God nor any other cosmic force has invented the amount of time to heal traumatic wounds
 - The phrase "time heals all wounds" is a well-intentioned lie
 - Some days we can talk about traumatic events without issue and other days thoughts alone bring tears... don't overreact to the difficult days that will certainly occur... expect them and *be gentle with yourself*
 - **IMPORTANT:** to struggle with traumatic experiences is normal, there is absolutely nothing wrong with us when we do struggle – ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!
- 2) **Trauma is a normal part of life and effects all of us at some point**
 - We're not unique because we've lived through a traumatic event... most people do at some point in their lives
 - Remember this quote... "nobody gets through the car wash without getting wet" – it's true
 - Remember this insight... *lots of people live great lives after trauma enters their life, we can live great lives too*
- 3) **Trauma is Trauma is Trauma**
 - Whether the source of one's trauma is child abuse, sexual assault, violent crime, terminal illness, drug overdose, personal tragedy, death of a loved one, combat, or some other traumatic incident... *the source of trauma ultimately doesn't matter*
 - Traumatic experiences, no matter what their origin is, have a deep and lasting impact on our lives
- 4) **Feeling "damaged" by trauma is normal**
 - Traumatic experiences change us, they're a lot to deal with... but we're still the same people, capable of living great lives... some call the part of us that is changed "damaged"-- that feeling is a normal part of post-traumatic life
- 5) **STOP FAKING MENTAL HEALTH - all of us are dealing with our own traumatic experiences**
 - With the people who care about you, don't fake like you're doing fine when you're not
 - With the people who care about you, don't be afraid to say the words "I'm struggling today"
 - When we're honest about our mental health, we give others permission to talk about their struggles... and they will
- 6) **WE GOTTA TALK ABOUT OUR TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES**
 - In order to live a great life, we gotta talk about our traumatic experiences and the feelings that develop due to them
 - We talk about our traumatic experiences *for our own benefit and for the benefit of those we love and for no one else!*
 - The phrase "I'll never go there with you because I love you..." is the path to destroyed relationships & isolation
 - The first person we should talk with is our spouse or significant other, if you don't have one, then someone you trust
 - Stay connected to your "tribe" for life... the raw honesty of "tribal" relationships sustains us during life's difficult times

GOAL #1: Learn to coexist with trauma

- Once you accept the first six Commandments as valid... there is only one course of action – to coexist
- Coexisting with our traumatic experiences and the feelings we feel in their aftermath becomes our "new normal"

- 7) **Physical fitness is essential to long-term mental health**
 - Every one of us knows the mental health benefits of physical fitness... so get active and remain active for life
- 8) **Learn how to handle money WELL**
 - Financial stress creates feelings of life being "out of control" and is often a major factor in destructive behaviors
 - Financial fitness creates stability and the feeling of control in our lives; stable finances are a part of mental health
- 9) **IF YOU STRUGGLE WITH TRAUMA... QUIT Drinking -- QUIT Using Drugs**
 - FACT: no person has ever successfully dealt with traumatic experiences by abusing alcohol or drugs
 - FACT: *substance abuse is the single most detrimental thing we do when dealing with trauma's aftermath*
 - Alcohol and drugs unleash our emotional pain on those who love us most... often driving them away... leaving us isolated
- 10) **Develop "Wellness Practices" to positively channel post-traumatic stress reactions**
 - Wellness Practices are productive ways we "vent" the reactions that result from living with traumatic experiences... *meditation, music, physical fitness, writing, yoga, talking and walking* are examples... and there are countless others
 - Wellness practices help keep us on the life-path that we choose... and outta life's ditch
 - Be deliberate and thorough when considering prescription medications... to include a plan to get off them
 - Be deliberate and understand what you are supposed to "get out of" individual or group "talk therapy"

GOAL #2: Embrace self-discipline in your life

- Self-Discipline is a positive force in your life and will push against life's negative forces on a daily basis
- The path to sustained success in life is paved with self-discipline and that is especially necessary after traumatic experiences

GOAL #3: Give

- By giving the traumatic wisdom embodied in these "3 Goals & 10 Commandments" to others as often as we can... by guiding others to a path that will transform their lives... we in turn transform our own lives
- Giving becomes the key to transforming our lives... and over time... moving from trauma to joy
- By guiding and coaching others affected by trauma... we live purpose driven lives of service... we make our communities stronger... our nation better
- Overwhelming traumatic experiences with joyful experiences is ultimately the key to transforming our lives and how we WIN

William Davis, Young Marines National Executive Director / CEO provided an update on the National Young Marine Program. <https://youngmarines.com/public/page>

A national youth program for boys and girls, ages eight through high school, focused on leadership, citizenship through community service, self-discipline, and living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

Start a Unit

<https://youngmarines.com/public/page/StartAUnit>

Donate <https://youngmarines.com/public/page/Donate>

Gene Overstreet, 12th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps (Retired) spoke briefly about the Marine Riders for Marine motorcycle riders. <http://www.marineriders.org/>

The election and installation of National Officers was conducted.

Johnny Baker Commandant

Warren Griffin Senior Vice Commandant

T.J. Morgan Junior Vice Commandant

Phil Zamora Judge Advocate

Rick Thomason, National Vice Commandant

Mideast Division

Frank Mathers, Assistant National Vice Commandant

Mideast Division

Semper Fidelis

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Mathers,

ANVC MED

22 August 2021