



The DuPage MCL Detachment 399

mcleague399.org

Meeting at DuPage Memorial VFW Post #2164 · 0N731 Papworth Rd. · Wheaton, IL 60187

2023 DATES TO REMEMBER

OFFICERS

Commandant: M Albertus
 Sr Vice Comdt: H Quiroga
 Jr Vice Comdt: P Beaudion
 Paymaster/Adjutant: V. Cobbett
 Chaplain: D. Kenyon
 Judge Advocate: R Kollias
 Sgt at Arms: R Gaden
 Assistant: M Mikulecky
 Jr Past Commandant: J. Olejnicki
 Trustee: J. Meschi (2024)
 Trustee: L. Olson (2025)
 Trustee: C. Wingard (2026)
 Trustee: E. Weingartner (2027)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bingo: R. Gaden/L. Grezek
 Color Guard: R Gaden
 Eagle Scout: D. Kenyon
 Fund-Raising: L. Olson
 Historian: D. Igrisan
 News Memo:
 V. Cobbett/ D. Igrisan
 Picnic: G. Bormann
 Quartermaster: R. Kollias
 Scholarship: V. Cobbett
 Special Awards:
 J Olejnicki/V Cobbett
 TFT: R Kollias
 VAC: J. Meschi
 Valentine Party: L. Bellow
 Web Sgt: J. Stanovich

WEBSITE

www.mcleague399.org

14 JUN Flag Day, 250th B-day US Army
19 JUN Juneteenth
22-25 JUN Department 4th Staff and 79th Convention, Northfield Inn Suites&Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, IL. 217 523-7900
27 JUN #399 General Meeting begins 1930, Zoom access; Board meeting begins 1830

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT #399

Hello fellow Marines. We had our installation of officers this past meeting. We enjoyed the buffet style dinner and desserts and enjoyed the fellowship with the members and guests. We had an awards presentation with the marine of the year: Martin Bourgeois, Associate Member of the Year, Lynne Grezek, and Don Kenyon received the Chapel of the Four Chaplins Humanitarian award and medallion. I thought we had a nice turnout and enjoyed the evening; hoping to see everyone at the June 27th meeting. Semper Fidelis, Merrill Albertus

INSTALLATION 2023

On 23 MAY 2023 we were honored to have Dept. of IL PDC Bruce Blackmer assisted by Burbank Chaplain Rob Schoon as Sgt-At-Arms to install our detachment officers. Our officers for 2023-2024 are:

Commandant:	Merrill C. Albertus
Sr. Vice Commandant:	Hector E. Quiroga
Jr. Vice Commandant:	U. Pete Beaudion
Judge Advocate:	Rita T. Kollias
Adjutant/Paymaster:	Victoria L. Cobbett
Sgt. At Arms:	Roger C. Gaden
Chaplain:	Donald J. Kenyon
Jr. Past Commandant:	John R. Olejnicki
Trustee (2024):	John P. Meschi
Trustee (2025):	Larry J. Olson
Trustee (2026):	Charles W. Wingard
Trustee (2027):	Edward Weingartner

MARINE OF THE YEAR

Marine Martin Bourgeois was awarded the 2022-23 DuPage Marines MOY. His niece and nephew were there for the celebration as were all his Marine friends. Congratulations, Marty!

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

Ms. Lynne Grezek was awarded our 2022-23 Associate Member of the Year award. Her friends and Marine family were pleased to celebrate with this most deserving lady.

**SPECIAL AWARD**

The Chapel of the Four Chaplains is an award to recognize selfless service to the community that is not associated with a personal vocation or profession. Marine Kenyon was submitted for the Legion of Honor award and was upgraded to the Humanitarian award by the Four Chaplains Foundation. His public service has been lifelong and worthy of recognition. Congratulations to a deserving recipient and for his service to others!



MARINE ROSE/US FLAG

We had a several fundraising events during May. They were held at the Jewel in Wheaton on 20 MAY, and the Jewel in Bartlett. This is currently our only fundraising activity, so contact Larry Olson, (630) 569-7395, or oly18@comcast.net, if available to volunteer for a couple of hours.

SGT. TOMMY'S 17th ANNUAL KIDS FISHING DAY - 17 June

Sgt. Thomas M. Gilbert was a Member of our DuPage Marines. Sgt Gilbert was KIA on 25 OCT 2006 in Al Fallujah, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. This Family Fishing Day is for children under 15 to learn about fishing and enjoying the outdoors. Contact John Meschi, (630) 886-6326, or meschi-usmc@mail.com, if available to assist.



Sgt. Thomas M. Gilbert



As a Cpl. Tom Gilbert at our corn roast booth
Downers Grove Fest. JUN 2005

ES/COH

An ES COH was held on 20 MAY 2023 in Naperville IL. The MCL Good Citizenship Award and a USMC Ka-Bar were presented to Eagle Scouts Isabelle Nobrega, Amelia Votava, and Matthew J. Lipien by Commandant Merrill "Doc" Albertus, and PDC Victoria L. Cobbett



On 4 JUN 2023 at 1700, an ES Court of Honor is scheduled for three (3) new Eagle Scouts. Each ES to be presented the MCL Good Citizenship Award and USMC Ka-Bar. This Court of Honor will be held at Wheatland-Salem Church, 1852 95th Street in Naperville. ES Chair Don Kenyon will need assistance - please contact Chairman Kenyon if you can assist, Cell: 630-561-8741 or E-Mail: dskenyon@sbcglobal.net

TFT MOTORCYCLE RUN

23 July a fundraising motorcycle run will begin at *Knuckleheads* in Elburn at 0930. Contact Judge Advocate Rita Kollias for details, rita.kollias@carotrans.com

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

DuPage Marines are looking for Marines! Make sure you get credit for being a recruiter/sponsor – (5) new members recruited in a detachment year (May 1-April 30) rates the Detachment Recruiter Ribbon.

ANNUAL DUES

If you pay annual dues, they expire annually on 31 August 2023. If you have difficulty paying your dues, please contact Paymaster Vicki Cobbett, (v.cobbett@comcast.net, or text 630-330-2571) and confidentiality will be maintained. You are very important to our detachment. Anyone can experience financial problems, so don't be so proud.

LIFE MEMBER DUES NEW FEE SCHEDULE

Consider becoming a Life Member – After One (1) year of membership, any member can become a Life Member of the Marine Corps League.

Life Membership rates until **30 JUNE 2023**:

Age Group	\$
0 – 35	\$500.00
36 – 50	\$400.00
51 – 64	\$300.00
65 – Over	\$200.00

Effective **1 JULY 2023**, the Life Membership Fees will increase as per the following chart:

\$1000.00	35 years of age and lower
\$800.00	36-50 years of age
\$600.00	51-64 years of age
\$400.00	65-84 years of age
\$100.00	85 years of age and higher

The member's annual dues must be paid up-to-date and the member is in good standing. Any member desiring to pay their Life Membership Fees at the current rate, must send to Vicki ASAP. Paymaster Cobbett, 733 Singer Avenue, Lemont, IL 60439-3912.

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Members who were sworn in to our detachment over twenty years ago:

- * Gene Miller – 44 years, 13 June 1979
- * Chris A. Hecklinger – 24 years ago, 22 June 1999
- * Richard M. Nazimek – 24 years, 22 June 1999
- * Michael Deegan – 23 years, 27 June 2000
- * Wesley P. Young – 23 years, 27 June 2000
- * Stanley T. Johnsen – 20 years, 24 June 2003

2023 DEPT. OF IL CONVENTION

The 2023 MCL department convention is 22 JUN to 29 JUN. We are allowed twelve(12) delegates plus an equal number alternates. If you are able to attend, the detachment pays your delegate fee. We can have a huge influence on all things Department, but first, you must attend. It will be held at the Northfield Inn Suites & Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, IL. P: 217 523-7900, Contact paymaster adjutant Vicki Cobbett if able to attend for even one day. Saturday is especially important as that is when Board elections and ByLaw amendments are voted upon. We can have a huge influence on all things Department, but first, you must attend.

SCHOLARSHIP 2023

DETACHMENT #399 MCL The Sgt. Thomas Gilbert Memorial Scholarship program is a grant that is available to detachment members and family. Application & Instructions may be downloaded at: www.mcleague399.org. Hardcopies are available by request at every meeting. If you are planning to pursue or currently are obtaining any type of educational advancement whether scholastic or technical or vocational, apply for the scholarship. Your information is kept confidential and secure. All applications must be postmarked no later than **30 June 2023**. No online applications are accepted; postal mail only. Any questions, contact Department scholarship and Detachment scholarship Chairwoman Victoria Cobbett: text 630-330-2571 or email v.cobbett@comcast.net or telephone 630-257-6423 and leave a message.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep Merrill Albertus, and Beth Gaden in your prayers; Merrill is continuing chemotherapy infusions; Beth Gaden is home recovering from her heart transplant.

The prayers for healing of members and family Pete Beaudion, Marty Bourgeois, John Burlace, Charlie Castino, Mike Deegan, the Gaden Family, Roland Johnson, Kyle Michael Koener, Vito Markas, Mike Mikulecky, Richard Nazimek, Terry Owens, Harper Orbell, Sharon Passero, Read Rogers, and Thomas Stuckey need to remain in your thoughts and prayers.

Many of our members have long term illnesses or disabilities or are recovering from medical problems and other health issues. A word of good cheer or a card may brighten their day; some have recent illnesses or hospitalizations and some are on their way to recovery. Some of the names on our prayer list have lost their Marine and some are in long-term residences away from family and friends and some are precious family members and some are friends of the detachment. If you need an address for a card or a number for a phone call, contact Chaplain Don Kenyon or Adjutant Vicki Cobbett.

Some of our members wish to remain anonymous, but still need to be in our prayers.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

We need a news letter editor. Many hands make light work and someone needs to take up the mantle of newsletter editor. We need a monthly newsletter to send out to the detachment to encapsulate any current events or activities of interest to the membership. You can do it!

THE ILLINOIS MARINE IS THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE. You can access information about all things Marine Corps League. The address is: <https://theillinoismarine.com/>

To contact The Illinois Marine: The Illinois Marine 1005 Prairie Street, St. Charles, IL 60174-3638
Phone: 630 564-1804 fax: 630 377-9638 Email: usmc1962@comcast.net (Don Haines) or lori@bwbgraphics.com (Lori Boyle)

Improvise!

Adapt!

Overcome!