

The Few. The Proud.



The DuPage MCL Detachment 399

mcleague399.org

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



2024-2025

OFFICERS

Commandant: H Quiroga
Sr Vice Comdt: R Kollias
Jr Vice Comdt: J Schmitt (A)
Paymaster/Adjutant: V. Cobbett
Chaplain: D. Kenyon
Judge Advocate: D Igrisan
Sgt at Arms: R Gaden
Assistant: M Mikulecky
Jr Past Commandant: J. Olejnicki
Trustee: L. Olson (2025)
Trustee: C. Wingard (2026)
Trustee: E. Weingartner (2027)
Trustee: J. Meschi (2028)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bingo: R. Gaden/L. Grezek
Color Guard: R Gaden
Eagle Scout: D. Kenyon
Fund-Raising: L. Olson
Historian: D. Igrisan
News Memo:
D. Igrisan/V. Cobbett
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

2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

- *****
- 13-16 June

Dep IL MCL Convention, Northfield Inn, Springfield
- 16 Jun

MCL #399 Bingo at Hines Hospital
- 25 Jun

#399 #399 General Meeting begins 1930,
Zoom access; Board meeting 1830
- 21 Jul

MCL #399 Bingo at Hines Hospital
- 23 Jul

#399 #399 General Meeting begins 1930,
Zoom access; Board meeting 1830
- 18 Aug

MCL #399 Bingo at Hines Hospital
- 27 Aug

#399 #399 General Meeting begins 1930,
Zoom access; Board meeting 1830
- 2 Sep

LABOR DAY
- *****

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT #399

Fellow Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Associate Members,
It is an honor to serve as your new Commandant. Together, we will uphold the proud traditions of our Marine Corps League, support our fellow veterans, and continue our dedicated service to our communities and nation. Semper Fi!
Semper Fidelis,
Hector Quiroga
Commandant MCL #399

Remember to wear your Red Fore & Aft Cover

Our Marine for Life (M4L) representative is Captain Jennifer Slown USMCR.

INSTALLATION

On 28 MAY 2024 we were honored to have Central Division National Vice Commandant Mike Sturch assisted by Detachment Chaplain Don Kenyon and Detachment Sgt-at-Arms Roger Gaden to install our detachment officers for 2024-2025. Your elected officers for 2024-2025 are:

Commandant:	Hector E. Quiroga
Sr. Vice Commandant:	Rita T. Kollias
Judge Advocate:	Daniel E. Igrisan
Adjutant/Paymaster:	Victoria L. Cobbett
Sgt. At Arms:	Roger C. Gaden
Chaplin:	Donald J. Kenyon
Jr. Past Commandant:	John R. Olejnicki
Trustee (2025):	Larry J. Olson
Trustee (2026):	Charles W. Wingard, Sr.
Trustee (2027):	Ed Weingartner
Trustee (2028):	John P. Meschi

John Schmitt has agreed to be appointed to take the position of Jr. Vice Commandant. He as well as John Meschi will be installed at our June meeting as both were unable to attend the May installation.

Our Marine of the Year is Merrill Albertus and our Associate Member of the Year is Linda Bellow. The buffet dinner was again catered by Addante's Catering on Gary Avenue in Carol Stream. The food was delicious and aplenty. Fancy and delicious hors-d'oeuvres were donated by Alex Kulseth and cookies and cake were served after the meal. Congratulations to everyone!

2024-25 OFFICERS



MOY MERRILL ALBERTUS



AMOY LINDA BELLOW



TFT

The TFT Motorcycle Run is scheduled 28 July beginning at Knuckleheads Tavern in Elburn, registration is at 0930. Run ends at Elburn American Legion Post #630. Contact TFT Chairwoman Rita Kollias for further details, (devildog97@icloud.com).

The DuPage County/Kane County TFT Charity golf outing is 20 September 2024 at Bliss Creek Golf Course, 1 Golf View Road, Sugar Grove, IL.

HINES BINGO

Another successful Bingo was held on Sunday, 19 May 2024. Upcoming dates are:

16 June 2024 21 July 2024 18 August 2024

DuPage Marines are reserved for the third Sunday of each month through 2024. Join us to bring some cheer to our fellow Veterans in long-term hospital care. Muster at 1345 and game with the in-patient veterans until 1530. Contact Roger Gaden (630) 854-9587) for further information or questions.

EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR

There were three Eagle Scouts' Court of Honor held during May.

The first ES/COH was held on Saturday 11 May 2024 at the at the Grace Community Church, 2770 Montgomery Road in Aurora. The MCL Good Citizenship Award was presented to new Eagle Scouts Matthew Puntney, Sanjal Shrestha, and Matthew Tam by ES Chair Don Kenyon and PDC Roger Gaden.

An Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held on Wednesday, 15 MAY 2024 at 1900 at the Gary United Methodist Church's sanctuary, 224 N. Main St. in Wheaton. The MCL Good Citizenship Award and a USMC Ka-Bar were presented to new Eagle Scout Jack Mathis by ES Chair Don Kenyon.

Eagle Scouts Matthew Puntney,
Sanjal Shrestha, and Matthew Tam



Eagle Scout Jack Mathis





The third ES COH was held on Saturday 18 MAY 2024 at the 675 Sheila Place, a private residence in Lombard. The MCL Good Citizenship Awards and USMC Ka-Bars were presented to new Eagle Scouts Caitlyn Oliva and Casey Oliva by ES Chair Don Kenyon.

Please contact Chairman Kenyon if you wish to participate in any future presentations, Cell: 630-561-8741 or E-Mail: dskenyon@sbcglobal.net

FUNDRAISING

We held our first 2024 Flag/Rose fundraising event at the **Wheaton Jewel (Schmale & Geneva Roads)** on **25 May** which was Memorial Day weekend. Members Ed Weingartner, Bob Kulseth, Roger Gaden, Don Kenyon, Vicki Cobbett, and Larry Olson collected over \$1100 from the generous shoppers/donors. Future dates will be emailed. This is our only detachment income at this time besides donations so plan to assist. Contact Chairman Larry Olson [630- 569-7395 or oly18@comcast.net] when you are available.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The DuPage Marines Sgt. Thomas Gilbert Memorial Scholarship program, www.mcleague399.org, is available to detachment members and family. The Application & Instructions for the detachment scholarship may be downloaded at: www.mcleague399.org. Hardcopies of the packet are available by request at every meeting from Vicki Cobbett (v.cobbett@comcast.net) If you are planning to pursue or currently are obtaining any type of educational opportunity 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 2024!** No online applications are accepted; postal mail only.

MCL NEWS

NATIONAL MCL

The National MCL link has all sorts of information for the Marine Corps League.
<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/member-library/>

DEPARTMENT OF IL MCL

The ILLINOIS MARINE is the department website: <https://theillinoismarine.com/>
You can access information about all things Marine Corps League. Contact information: 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) to place news articles.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Scheduled **14-16 June 2024** at Northfield Inn Suites & Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, IL., Phone: 217 523-7900. Room rate 96.00 + 14% tax = \$109.44. Call the hotel directly to use the MCL rate. We are allowed **11 delegates from #399 to vote** for any motions or elections.

DETACHMENT MCL

The DuPage Marines detachment website is: mcleague399.org. If you have information or suggestions for content, send your MCL events and photos to Dan Igrisan (deiggy1@gmail.com) or Vicki Cobbett (v.cobbett@comcast.net) or maybe volunteer to become our social information chairman.

PRAYER LIST

Merrill is having surgery next week so keep him in your prayers (Psalm 147:3 is a good addition). The prayers list for hope and healing of members and family include Merrill Albertus, Marty Bourgeois, John Burlace, Charlie Castino, Elizabeth Gaden, Roland Johnson, Kyle Michael Koener, Vito & Amy Markas, Mike Mikulecky, Richard Nazimek, Terry Owens, Harper Orbell, Sharon Passero, Read Rogers, John Schmitt, and Thomas Stuckey. Many of our members have new grandchildren or graduates to celebrate. Remember them in your thoughts and prayers (Psalm 9:1). 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 remain in our prayers. Marines are proud and stubborn, but MARINES TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN!

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

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

ANNUAL DUES

If you pay annual dues, all expire annually on 31 August 2023, regardless of the month you joined!. This means renewal notices will be arriving soon. You are very important to our detachment. Anyone can experience financial problems, don't be so proud. 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.

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

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

- * Gene Miller – 45 years, 13 June 1979
- * Chris A. Hecklinger – 25 years ago, 22 June 1999
- * Richard M. Nazimek – 25 years, 22 June 1999
- * Michael Deegan – 24 years, 27 June 2000
- * Wesley P. Young – 24 years, 27 June 2000
- * Stanley T. Johnsen – 21 years, 24 June 2003

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

None

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

- * Allen Zenner – 13 years, 25 June 2011
- * John Dwyer – 11 years, 25 June 201

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

Read the message below from one of our own:

“-Original Message-----

From: John Meyr <jmeyrjohn@aol.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 2:25 PM

Subject: C-47 aircraft

Back in July of 1967 I worked as a technical writer for a firm out of Chicago who sent me to a branch out of North Ft. Lauderdale to work on a project for the Air Force. I was handed a Mil. Spec. 1 1/2 inches thick and 800 mechanical drawings of the C-47 aircraft and asked to find areas of the aircraft where they can insert things without being detrimental to the aircraft. I assumed the obvious, i.e. modern avionics, Doppler Antennas, and other modern avionics, etc. The largest blueprint was a J size...the full aircraft, and all other drawings down to an A size. I was given a month to produce my analysis and spent more than 8-hour days to finish the project in 3 weeks. I showed where they could insert whatever into the body of the plane.

I thought often about what was done with my findings. I recently revisited the subject out of curiosity and found that in 1969 it operated as a gunship in Viet Nam known as "Puff the Magic Dragon." I was happy to discover that my efforts helped the war effort even though I was no longer in the Corps.

Best regards and Semper Fi.,

John Meyr”

Improvise!

Adapt!

Overcome!