



The Few. The Proud.

The DuPage MCL Detachment 399

mcleague399.org

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

2025-2026

OFFICERS

Commandant: H Quiroga
Sr Vice Comdt: R Kollias
Jr Vice Comdt: C Obrzut
Judge Advocate: D Igrisan
Chaplain: D. Kenyon
Sgt at Arms: R Gaden
Assistant: M Mikulecky
Jr Past Commandant: J. Olejnicki
Trustee: C. Wingard (2026)
Trustee: E. Weingartner (2027)
Trustee: J. Meschi (2028)
Trustee: L. Olson (2029)
Paymaster/Adjutant: V. Cobbett

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

2025 DATES TO REMEMBER

17 Aug Bingo Hines Hospital, 1400
23 Aug Flag/Rose Fundraiser Bartlett Jewel
26 Aug #399 General Meeting begins 1930,
Zoom access; Board meeting 1830
1 Sep LABOR DAY
19 Sep National POW/MIA Remembrance Day
19 Sep TFT Golf outing: Fundraiser, all day
20 Sep Wheaton Block Party: Fundraiser, Recruitment
21 Sep Bingo Hines Hospital, 1400
23 Sep #399 General Meeting begins 1930,
Zoom access; Board meeting 1830

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines,
It was good to see some familiar faces at our July meeting. Although we had a few hiccups with our Zoom call, we made it work—thanks to everyone’s patience and flexibility.
To all our Marines, Corpsmen, and Detachment members—your continued presence and dedication to the League mean a great deal.
Let’s all remember to take care of ourselves and look out for one another—not just as League members, but as brothers and sisters. Stay safe, stay sharp, and Semper Fi.
— Commandant Hector Quiroga, DuPage County MCL #399

COMMUNITY INTERACTION + FUNDRAISING

We have an invitation to the upcoming Wheaton Block Party on September 20, 2025, at Memorial Park, 225 Karlskoga Ave, Wheaton, IL 60187. Through the efforts of MCL #399 member Captain Andrew McGady, the Community Relations Commission is planning to purchase water bottles and raffle prizes for the event. The idea is to have DuPage MCL run the water and raffle table, and in doing so, keep the proceeds from those sales. The setup will be simple, just a table featuring information about the Marine Corps League, a display or materials highlighting the community contributions like scholarships and

good citizen awards, and perhaps a showcase of one of the combat veterans. This will not only serve as a fundraising opportunity but also offer great exposure to the community and increase awareness of the League's mission and impact.

FUNDRAISING

The next flag/rose fundraiser is 23 August at Bartlett Jewel, 125 E. Stearns Rd in Bartlett. We need a minimum of 4 members

If you can give a few hours to help us support our MCL missions/charities, contact Larry Olson ASAP if able to participate with any of the above events. 630 569 7395 or oly18@com-cast.net.

We had one fundraising event 5 July, and grossed \$1,270.00. GREAT JOB! It was held at the Wheaton Jewel on Main and Geneva. Thank you Larry Olson, Ed Weingartner, Dick Schie, Gail Berry, Chuck Obrzut, and Kathy Obrzut for volunteering.



HINES BINGO

Bingo will held on 17 August. Please join us to bring some cheer to our fellow Veterans in long-term hospital care. Muster at 1345 and game with the inpatient veterans until 1530. Contact Roger Gaden (630) 854-9587) for further information or questions.



On Sunday, 13 July, the volunteers included John Meschi, Virginia Carino, Charles Obrzut, Brittany Michor (VAC) Larry Olson, Kathleen Obrzut, Elizabeth Gaden, Roger Gaden.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Kane & DuPage Counties Annual Toys for Tots Golf Outing - **Friday Sept 19, 2025**, at Bliss Creek Golf Club, 1 Golf View Road in Sugar Grove. DuPage and Kane County Marine Toys for Tots are once again pleased to be hosting our Annual Charity Golf Outing. This is our sixth year co-hosting this event with Green Associates and each year the tournament just gets better and better! Once again, we will have prizes, a silent auction, a raffle table, and a selection of golf-themed games (minimal skill required).

Please consider partnering with us this year:

Hole Sponsorship \$500

Product or Gift Certificate Donation

Beverage Cart and/or Lunch Sponsorship \$1000

Dinner Sponsorship \$1500

General Sponsor \$2000

Register a Foursome - Come join us for a great day of golf! <https://www.golfinvite.net/marinetoysfortots-blisscreek>

If you are interested in sponsorship or a donation, please contact us and we will be happy to assist with processing donations, sponsorships, or making arrangements to pick up auction/raffle items. Please share the flyer and any emails that are available.

Contact dupage.il@toysfortots.org for further information or questions.

Thank you for your support!

Special TFT Fundraiser

"The Stories Behind the Songs", 18 October at the Elmhurst American Legion Hall, 310 Butterfield Road, Elmhurst, IL. A TFT fundraising event. 1800-220, \$150 per person includes food and open bar. Please bring a new unwrapped toy.

Contact Sr. Vice Commandant Rita Kollias devildog97@icloud.com for details on any of these TFT events.

MARINE WEEK EVENT

Thursday 10 July was the Marine Week event at Romeoville High School. MsGySgt Couturier planned and executed an outstanding event with assist from his MCJROTC unit.

We had a display table with member applications, USMC swag, Marine Roses, and flags for visitors to our table. Volunteers included Don & Shelly Kenyon, Roger Gaden, Vicki Cobbett, Charles Obrzut, Larry Olson, and Kathleen Obrzut. In spite of a sudden rainstorm, we were privileged to view USMC transport vehicles, helicopters, the silent drill team, and the USMC band. There were also various interactive displays for visitors. It was a great day!



NATIONAL MCL

Information, power point programs, minutes, events, all things National MCL may be found on this link: <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/>

DEPARTMENT OF IL MCL

The ILLINOIS MARINE is the department website: <https://theillinoismarine.com/>

You can access information about all things Marine Corps League.

All transactions, registrations, payments, transmittals and information sharing are digital now.

DETACHMENT #399

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.

R.I.P. Marine Terry R. Owens - answered his last roll call 8 JUL 2025.

Terry Owens was in the Marines 1963 – 1969, Viet Nam 3rd MAR DIV 3rd MAF, MOS 5591 & 5593 Drum and Bugle Corps, Cpl
He was sworn into DuPage County Marines on 23 OCT 2007, Life Member 24 DEC 2008.

Honors: MCL Membership w/ 3 Silver Stars

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES: AUGUST

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

- * Stephanie Kifowit – 25 years, 22 August 2000
- * Donn M. Byrne – 24 years, 28 August 2001
- * Carmen S. Guido – 24 years, 28 August 2001
- * Dominic Pugliani – 23 years, 27 August 2002
- * Javier F. Martinez – 22 years, 26 August 2003
- * Charles W. Wingard Jr. – 21 years, 24 August 2004

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

- * Gary E. Cobbett – 18 years, 28 August 2007
- * Victoria L. Cobbett – 18 years, 28 August 2007

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

- *None

ANNUAL DUES

If you pay annual dues, all expire on 31 August of each year, regardless of the month you joined!. Renewal notices have been mailed. You are very important to our detachment, but your dues are needed in a timely manner. 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.

Effective 1 JULY 2023, the Life Membership Fees were increased as follows:

\$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

MEMBERSHIP

DuPage Marines are looking for Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and USN Chaplains!

2025 is the 250th Birthday of the USMC and an excellent opportunity to recruit new members and encourage current members.

If you are asked, "Why should I join?", your answer may include any or all of the following taken directly from our Constitution.

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To preserve the traditions and to promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps.
2. To band those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service together in fellowship, that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy.
3. To fit its members for the duties of citizenship and to encourage them to serve as able citizens as they served the Nation under arms.
4. To hold sacred the history and memory of the men who have given their lives to the Nation.
5. To foster love for the principles which they have supported by blood and valor since founding the Republic.
6. To maintain true allegiance to American institutions.
7. To create a bond of comradeship between those in service and those who have returned to civilian life.
8. To aid voluntarily and to render assistance to all Marines and former Marines as well as their widows and orphans.
9. To perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps by fitting acts, to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.
10. To assist, when and wherever possible, the fathers, mothers and dependents of deceased Marines.
11. To strive for passage of legislation favorable to the United States Marine Corps, to the Officers and men of the active service and to honorably discharged Marines.
12. To urge the participation of all members in patriotic functions and other civic, State, or National affairs as are of particular interest to Marines.

PRAYER LIST

The prayer 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, John Meschi, Mara Myrick, Richard Nazimek, Terry Owens, Harper Orbell, Sharon Passero, Read Rogers, John Schmitt, and Thomas Stuckey.

“Remember them in your thoughts and prayers” (Psalm 9:1).

If you need an address for a card or a phone number for a call, contact Chaplain Don Kenyon or Adjutant Vicki Cobbett. Some of our members have long-term illnesses or wish to remain anonymous, but still need to remain in our prayers. Marines are proud and stubborn, but MARINES TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN!

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

It was great to see Merrill Albertus and Jack McInerny at the July meeting. Detachment officers Ed Weingartner and Dan Igrisan use the Zoom application to participate. Roger Carson and Chris Hecklinger join us on Zoom regularly also. If you are unable to drive to the meeting, the Zoom option is always available.

Semper Fidelis!

Remember to wear your Red Fore & Aft Cover!

Improvise!

Adapt!

Overcome!

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