



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

1 Sep LABOR DAY
11 Sep PATRIOT DAY or Day of Remembrance
17 Sep Constitution & Citizenship Day
19 Sep National POW/MIA Recognition
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,
September is a month of remembrance. The month begins with Labor Day when we remember all of the hard working Americans and their contributions. President Cleveland signed a law making the first Monday in September of each year a national holiday in June 1884. September 11 is Patriot Day. We remember the tragedy of the cowardly 9/11 attacks. The third Friday in September is recognized as POW/MIA recognition Day. We remember and honor those Americans who were prisoners of war and those who served and never returned home. Stay safe, stay sharp, and Semper Fi.
— Commandant Hector Quiroga, DuPage County MCL #399

COMMUNITY RELATIONS + 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 showcase of some of the combat vet-

erans in our Detachment. 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. Contact Vicki Cobbett, v.cobbett@comcast.net cell 630-330-2571 if available to volunteer at the table or as a showcased Marine MCL #399 Veteran.

FUNDRAISING

The flag/rose fundraiser on 23 August at Bartlett Jewel, 125 E. Stearns Rd in Bartlett, It was a huge success. We have several more planned with dates to be determined.

If you can give a few hours to help us support our MCL missions/charities, contact Larry at 630 569 7395 or oly18@comcast.net.



Thank you Chuck Obrzut, Kathy Obrzut, Hector Quiroga, Bob Kulseth, Gail Berry, Dave Schumann, Don Kenyon, Dick Schie, and Larry Olson for volunteering.

(not pictured above or below: Chuck Obrzut, Don Kenyon, Kathy Obrzut, Gail Berry)



HINES BINGO

Bingo will held on. 21 September 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, 17 August, the volunteers included John Meschi, Virginia Carino, Charles Obrzut, Brittany Michor (VAC) Larry Olson, Kathleen Obrzut, Elizabeth Gaden, Roger Gaden.

ESCOH

There was an Eagle Scout Court of Honor held on 2 August 2025 for ES John W. Scott. The Court of Honor was held at the Faith United Methodist Church, 815 S. Finley Road in Lombard. ES Chairman Donald Kenyon, PDC Roger Gaden and Charles Obrzut presented to the new Eagle Scout the MCL Good Citizenship Award & an USMC Ka-Bar.

Pictured L to R: C Obrzut, ES John W. Scott, D Kenyon, , R 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

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

If you are interested in sponsorship or a donation, please contact us and 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 250th BIRTHDAY EVENTS

There are still tickets available for the McHenry County Marine Corps League 250th USMC Birthday Ball, on Saturday, November 8th at the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn Convention Center. Go to <https://www.mchenrycountymcl.com/birthday-ball/> for ticket information.

The Navy/Marine Corps will have a special event in Philadelphia, PA in October which is also expected to be the opening of the Tun (Tun Tavern replica).

The MCCC <https://chicagomarines.com/> has information on and links to 250th Birthday support from the USMC <https://chicagomarines.com/marine-corps-250th>
Or contact: Community Relations office at marines250@usmc.mil.

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 JAMES "PATE" PHILIP answered his last roll on 21 NOV 2023.



Marine Philip was a Charter signing member of our Detachment on 30 April 1977. From our Founding Commandant Russ Kamradt we learned that "Pate donated the US Marine Corps flag our Detachment proudly displays. He was very helpful in the success of our Detachment by always rounding up more members each month," Marine Philip was in the Marines 1951-1953 serving in Korea. Pate, from Elmhurst, was a member of the Illinois House of Representatives from 1966 to 1975 and then Illinois Senate from 1975 until his retirement in 2003.

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES: SEPTEMBER

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

- * Edward R. Krol – 43 years, 8 September 1982
- * William J. Skoumal Jr. – 43 years, 8 September 1982
- * Vito J. Markas – 29 years, 26 September 1996
- * Christine A. Andersen – 22 years, 23 September 2003
- * Charles W. Wingard Jr. – 22 years, 23 September 2003

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

- * Steven J. Chojnacki Jr. – 18 years, 25 September 2007
- * Robert Kulseth – 18 years, 25 September 2007

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

- * John E. Warwick – 14 years, 9 September 2011

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 are 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

Five (5) new members recruited in a "commandant year" rates the Detachment Recruiter Ribbon.

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

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, Joanne Mikulecky, John Meschi, Richard Nazimek, Terry Owens, Harper Orbell, Sharon Passero, Read Rogers, John Schmitt, and Thomas Stuckey. Some of our members have long-term illnesses or wish to remain anonymous, but still need to remain in our prayers.

"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. Marines are proud and stubborn, but MARINES TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN!

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

Your presence at any event increases public awareness of our activities, programs, charities, and how cool it is that we are MARINES. We have a wonderful image, overall, but we need to keep our local image alive and relevant. Volunteer for your detachment whenever you are able and wear your MCL gear. Show your pride that you are a Marine!

Semper Fidelis!

Remember to wear your Red Fore & Aft Cover!

Improvise!

Adapt!

Overcome!

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