



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
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: C. Wingard (2026)
Trustee: E. Weingartner (2027)
Trustee: J. Meschi (2028)
Trustee: L. Olson (2029)

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 OctMove in to 2025 TFT warehouse, 0800
- 11 OctSteak Fry, West Chicago VFW 🍴
- 19 OctBingo Hines Hospital
- 28 Oct#399 General Meeting begins 1930, 📖§
Zoom access; Board meeting 1830
- 31 OctHalloween 🎃

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

Marines,
Our recent meeting had an outstanding turnout, and I'm proud of the strong participation at both the Hines VA bingo event and the Block Party in Wheaton. Thank you to all who contributed. A special thanks to MCL member Captain Drew McGady who fostered the opportunity in Wheaton. We have several exciting activities ahead, and I encourage everyone to stay involved as we continue to uphold the values of the Corps and strengthen our detachment.
Semper Fi,
Hector Quiroga

WELCOME ABOARD MARINE LUCAS THOMPSON!

Marine Lucas Thompson was sworn into the DuPage County Marines detachment during the detachment meeting on 23 September 2025 by Commandant Hector Quiroga. Marine Thompson was in the Marines from 1996 to 2000, MOS 0351and sponsored by Vicki Cobbett. We look forward to Lucas participating activities, events, and committees. Rita has already placed him on the TFT email list, with his permission, of course!

HINES BINGO 🎲🖋️

On Sunday, 21 September the volunteers at bingo included Roger Gaden, Elizabeth Gaden, Lynne Grezek, Richard Mikulecky, Virginia Carino, Charles Obrzut, Kathleen Obrzut.
The next bingo is October 19 at 1400. Volunteers are encouraged to attend this regular detachment veteran service activity. Bingo is scheduled on the third Sunday of each month from 1400-1530; volunteers should arrive at 1345 and game with the inpatient veterans until 1530. Contact Roger Gaden (630) 854-9587) for further information or questions.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Kane & DuPage Counties Annual Toys for Tots Golf Outing HELD ON Friday Sept 19, 2025, at Bliss Creek Golf Club, 1 Golf View Road in Sugar Grove, was a huge success!! "You made the Toys for Tots 2025 Golf Outing a Hole-In-One!"

MOVE-IN TFT WAREHOUSE

Oct 1 By order of DuPage County LCO Coordinator Rita Kollias: Move in to 2025 TFT warehouse; arrive 0800; Address: 1000 N. Main St., Lombard, IL. Report to DuPage County TFT Assistant Coordinator Linda Bellow. FOR CHECK-IN.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

- Oct 4 Blood drive from 0900-1300 at Naperville VFW Post 3873, 908 W Jackson, Naperville, IL 60540
- Oct 4: Warrenville Legion 5k Ruck
- Oct 11 Steak Fry fundraiser from 1600-1900 at West Chicago VFW Leon Richardt Post 6791, 431 N Neltnor Blvd (Rte 59), West Chicago IL 60185. \$20/ person for a steak, pork chop, or fried cod dinner. Prizes, Raffles, 50/50, bake sale.
- Oct 16: Freedom Day: Free dental care at Oakbrook Terrace Dental for any veteran from 1100-1900
- Oct 18: 4th Annual Stories behind the Music at Elmhurst American Legion
- Oct 26: Chicago Police Marines Bears vs Ravens kickoff annual fundraiser at FOP Hall, 1412 W Washington, Chicago; \$20/person

EAGLE SCOUT NEWS

We participated in one Eagle Scout's Court of Honor. In September. On Sunday September 7, 2025, at 3:00 PM at Our Savior Lutheran Church 1244 W Army Trail Rd Carol Stream we were represented by ES Chairperson Don Kenyon at the ceremony honoring ES Tyler Moroni. We presented our good Citizenship Award and Ka-Bar. In addition to the \$50 for the Ka-bar we received a \$25 donation. In 2023, we presented Kyle Moroni, Tyler's brother, with the same awards and recognition for his achievement of Eagle Scout. Mr Tony Moroni is the Troop #98 Scout master. This is the 17th ES/COH award in 2025.

Pictured below: ES Chair Don Kenyon & ES Tyler Moroni. Pictured to the right: Kyle Moroni ES COH 2023.



WHEATON BLOCK PARTY

The DuPage Marine Corps League was proud to participate in the 2025 Wheaton Block Party, a community centered event that brought together families, organizations, and local leaders. The League's presence was well received as members engaged with residents, shared information about the League's mission, and handed out a few membership applications to interested veterans.

Pictured below: John Olejnicki, the featured veteran, and Marine Chuck Obrzut.



The event provided a great opportunity to showcase the League's commitment to community involvement, and we were honored to be part of it. Mayor Suess of Wheaton expressed his sincere gratitude for the League's participation and support. Events like these continue to strengthen the bond between veterans and the communities they serve

Pictured below: Kathy Obrzut, Hector Quiroga, Roger Gaden, Chuck Obrzut



10 NOVEMBER 2025 Where will you be celebrating our 250th Marine Corps Birthday?

The Naperville Marines will host the USMC Birthday Ball on Saturday 8 November at the Naperville Marriott at 1801 N Naper Blvd, Naperville from 5:00 PM – 11:30 PM; tickets are sold out.

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

The McHenry County Detachment of the MCL is conducting a 250th celebration of our Corps, along with celebrating the 250th anniversary year of our brother services, the United States Army and Navy. Ticket Price is \$85.00 per person which includes Dinner (choice of Steak, Chicken, Fish or Vegetarian); chefs choice of starch and vegetable with Fresh Green Salad, warm rolls and butter; Open Bar for Social Hour and Dinner; Birthday Cake for dessert; and a Marine 250 Memento.

<https://www.mchenrycountymcl.com/birthday-ball/>

Join the Chicago Marines Foundation as we celebrate the birthday of our Marine Corps. Monday, November 10 · 6 - 10pm CST. Old Crow Smokehouse

3506 North Clark Street Chicago, IL 60657. Tickets prices from \$81.00-\$801.79

Party is open to anyone - Marines, veterans of all branches, civilians and military supporters. All proceeds will go to non-profit organizations that supports veterans.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-250th-marine-corps-birthday-tickets-1633179095639>

DEPARTMENT OF IL

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

You can access information about all things Marine Corps League.

The Department has purchased a ZOOM program. you may now join in Department meetings while at home. Check your email for the next ZOOM link or contact Dep SVC Cobbett. (v.cobbett@comcast.net or 630-330-2571).

DETACHMENT #399

The DuPage Marines detachment website is: mc-league399.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.

MEMBERSHIP

DuPage Marines are looking for Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and USN Chaplains! Make sure you get credit for being the recruiter/sponsor. (5) new members recruited in a commandant year rates the Detachment Recruiter Ribbon.

Pictured to the right: new #399 member Marine Lucas Thompson with Commandant Quiroga and, young Mr. Thompson. Lucas brought his adorable son to our family friendly meeting for his obligation and oath.

Welcome, Lucas and family.

LIFE MEMBERS

If you have a life membership, please make sure the adjutant/paymaster (Vicki) has your current email address, postal mailing address, telephone number, and contact person or significant other. We do not share your private information without specific permission. We do contact every member each year and cannot without correct demographic data. Also, printing and mailing costs have risen immensely, but we do have members who need the



printed newsletter for various reasons so we budget for those members. We do not want to lose contact with you!

ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

If you pay annual dues, **all annual dues expire annually on 31 August of each year**, regardless of the month you joined!. Renewal notices have been mailed. 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. We have donations to assist you.

Effective 1 JULY 2023, the Life Membership Fees 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 ANNIVERSARIES: OCTOBER

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

- * John F. Doyle [Charter Member] – 47 years, 6 October 1977
- * Vincent Bavetta – 47 years, 6 October 1977
- * John A. Gaw – 34 years, 16 October 1990
- * Martin R. Bourgeois – 29 years, 12 October 1995
- * Fernando J. Lozano – 24 years, 24 October 2000
- * Frank Kohout – 22 years, 22 October 2002
- * Rita T. Kollias – 20 years, 26 October 2004

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

- * Roger C. Gaden – 19 years, 25 October 2005

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

- * Miguel A. Mendez – 13 years, 25 October 2011
- * Thomas M. Stuckey – 13 years, 25 October 2011

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, Don Kenyon, Kyle Michael Koener, Vito & Amy Markas, Mike Mikulecky, John Meschi, Mara Myrick, Richard Nazimek, Charles Obrzut, Harper Orbell, Sharon Passero, Read Rogers, John Schmitt, and Thomas Stuckey. "Remember them in your thoughts and prayers" (Psalm 9:1).

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

This issue is dedicated to our still living members who were stationed in Cuba during the month of October 1962, known as "The Cuban Missile Crisis". Sixty-three years ago, these members were stationed at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp or "GITMO" in Guantanamo, Cuba. The MCL #399 members known to still be with us include:

1. John P Meschi, L/Cpl, Cuba Gitmo 1961-1963
2. Thomas Stuckey, Cpl, Cuba Gitmo 1961-1963

Remember to wear your Red Fore & Aft Cover!

Improvise!

Adapt!

Overcome!

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