



"LISTEN UP"

NEWSLETTER OF THE LCPL SQUIRE "SKIP" WELLS DETACHMENT 647

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VOLUME III NUMBER I

ONE NATION, UNDER GOD

JANUARY 2025

A NEW DAY AND BEGINNING FOR OUR COUNTRY AND CORPS

DEC. 30, 2024

PERSON OF THE YEAR

TIME

—
DONALD
TRUMP
—

O'ER THE LAND OF THE FREE. BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE

SCOOP FROM THE CP

As per the editor we shall have articles this month about the future; forward march. I will start with this month's cover: this is the 25th edition of "Listen Up", please recall what I wrote in that first issue - what the Editor decides well that is the way it is. So, I have voted and so have the people. Also, recall that before this month's moment of silence, I asked that please think about newly elected President Trump and the passing USN Veteran President Carter. I will trust that our Corps will bear well during the new administration and be respected as so did President Carter. Little known fact is that to keep the parties involved with the Egypt / Israel Peace Treaty, Carter called to perform at Camp David the USMC Band and I think Silent Drill Team (sure about the band). Well "they" are the President's own; said to have greatly impressed the heads of government. Now to the future.

Our detachment will soon have a newly elected leader. Like we did in the service and do as citizens, let us give our all to continue favorable communication and support. Of course, we will be looking forward to adding new members and just as importantly maintaining the membership that we have. Who is needed for future success, we all are. The Marine Corps League has a stated mission and we should all be looking forward to developing and holding to a mission for our detachment- it's not an easy task and can be tough to live up to- but we all decided to join an or-

ganization that isn't known for its weakness.

However, we do need to come forward and get on board the "new" ways of communication. I dare write that the Cub Scout group to whom I recently spoke knows more about Tech communication than most of us. Think in the future how many more things are going to be dependent to be conducted using your cell phone, tablet, or computer - it is almost beyond comprehension. Think about during the pandemic how we adapted and conducted meetings over the phone via "free" conference call (thank you Jason Rusk)- and we didn't lose a single member, I'm glad that we are able to have our monthly in person meetings but with a knowledge and structure of communication it can only bode well for our future survival.

I heard "Fundraising" mentioned during our meeting. One thing that we must do is to figure out how we get the money. Seems to me that the future is not about cash or checks but electronic transfer of funds. The good news is that we have a member, maybe several, who are familiar with and are working to establish those lines of money transfer. Perhaps the future is all those Zens, Moes, Pals and squiggly line cubes; all that I know is I have about had it while wondering if the check got there. Now all we must worry about is not letting a battery let us down. The future will be plugged in, power on.

Our January 2023 meeting was held before the funeral service for

FEBRUARY MEETING**Sat. 1st****at 1100****DAVE POES BBQ****660 Whitlock Ave NW, Marietta****33° 57' 10.30"N - 84° 34' 16.91"W****Detachment Officers**

Commandant.....	Doug Tasse dougkmtc@gmail.com
Sr. Vice Cmdt.....	Anthony Gasper mcldet647@gmail.com
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Paymaster.....	Christian Roberts marine82164@att.net
Chaplain.....	Arlen Griffin winwithgod@bellsouth.net
Sgt.-at -Arms.....	Ted Kanzler trk1248@gmail.com
Jr. Past Cmdt.....	Richard Wakefield <i>Deceased</i>
Web Sgt.....	Getzie Lamar Getzie.lamar@gmail.com
Public Affairs Off.....	William Vaughan vaughan.bill@gmail.com

Life Member Harry Kone. During this, our January 2025, meeting we inducted a new member, Charles Foxworthy - welcome aboard. Like Harry Kone, Charles and wife have a son and daughter; and like Harry, Charles had a desire to join and meet with fellow Marines and Associates. Charles and those who are like him are the future of our Detachment. The work of those who are with us now and members who will do so in the future are and will be appreciated.

A quick FYI, even though I got a pre issue of "Listen Up" I didn't read it yet, what I want is that you all enjoy a good future and that our detachment remains a place that has a welcoming atmosphere- be glad that you're with us, I am.

For our fallen Past President Carter may the good Lord rest his soul and that President Elect Trump along with his Administration be guided by Faith and God Bless the USA.

Semper Ti,
dougkmtc@gmail.com



DETACHMENT YELLOW PAGES

Detachment Commandant.....	1-(770)-895-4441	Military Records, DD-214's. . . .	1-(314) 592-1150
Detachment Adjutant.....	1-(678)-270-8002	Social Security.	1-800 772 1213
HQMC Records Correspondence	1-(314) 801-0800	VA Benefits and Assistance	1-800 827 1000
TRICARE South.	1-888-777-8343	Georgia Dept. of Veterans Service	1-(404)-656-2300

CONTACTS FOR YOUR FEDERAL ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES:

The Honorable Jon Ossoff
 United States Senate
 455 Russell Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510-4001
Phone: 202-224-3521
Fax: 202-224-2575

The Honorable Raphael Warnock
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 388 Russell Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Nikema Williams
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 1406 Longworth House Office Building
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Phone: 202-225-3801
Fax: 202-225-1776

The Honorable Lucy McBath
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Phone: 202-225-4501
Fax:

The Honorable Barry Loudermilk
 (District 11)
 United States House of Representatives
 2133 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515-4006
Phone: 202-225-2931
Fax: 202-225-2944

The Honorable Marjorie Taylor Greene
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MarCor, MCL and Veterans News

Marine base Blaz on Guam remains a work in progress as first troops arrive from Okinawa

LtCol Blaz was my CO when I was in 2ndBn, 23rdMar. Editor

By ALEX WILSON
 STARS AND STRIPES
 December 18, 2024

The first contingent of Marines moving from Okinawa to Guam will bunk at **Andersen Air Force Base, Naval Base Guam** or off-base, not the Corps' Camp Blaz, a 4,000-acre, multibillion construction project still in the works.

About 100 logistics support troops from III Marine Expeditionary Force have begun moving from the **III Marine Expeditionary Force** on Okinawa to Guam, according to a joint statement by the Marine Corps and Japan's Ministry of Defense on Saturday.

Their transfer has been underway for several months, Marine Corps Headquarters spokeswoman **Capt. Brenda McCarthy** said by email Tuesday.

(Guam; continued on page 4)



(Guam; continued from page 3)

The first 100 Marines should be in place by 2025, according to a report Saturday by *Kyodo News* that cited the Defense Ministry.

They are the first of more than 4,000 Marines expected to move from Okinawa under the Defense Policy Review Initiative, a 2012 agreement between the two allies to reduce the military presence on Okinawa, where nearly 30,000 of the 55,000 U.S. service members in Japan are stationed.

Blaz — the first new Marine Corps installation in 72 years — is still largely under construction. It's expected to eventually house rotational units that are moving from Okinawa.

About 1,300 Marines from III MEF may be permanently stationed on Guam, while another 3,700 Marines may be on the island as a rotational force.

The recently arrived logistics Marines are considered permanently stationed on Guam, Blaz spokeswoman **Maj. Diann Rosenfeld** said by email Wednesday. She said staff sergeants and above who are permanently stationed on Guam will live on the Air Force and Navy bases or in the local community,

The rotational force will be quartered at Camp Blaz regardless of rank, Rosenfeld said.



Contractors work on bachelor enlisted quarters at Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, Guam, Dec. 10, 2024. (Alex Wilson/Stars and Stripes)

Marines, sailors and civilians included in the relocation, regardless of their place of residence, may work at spots around the island, including Blaz, Andersen or the naval base, Rosenfeld said.

Blaz was officially activated in 2020 and has remained under construction since.

At least 22 projects have been completed across the island, mostly at other installations. Another 32 are expected to be completed in fiscal year 2025, **Rachel Landers**, a spokeswoman for the Office in Charge of Construction Marine Corps Marianas, told Stars and Stripes at Blaz on Dec. 10.

The Defense Policy Review Initiative relocates some Marine assets from Okinawa to Guam, and elsewhere, including Hawaii. Japan is providing approximately \$3 billion of the estimated \$8.6 billion to build Blaz and its surrounding infrastructure.

McCarthy did not elaborate on a timeline for coming troop arrivals on Guam.





WEST POINT APOLOGIZES FOR SHARING INACCURATE PETE HEGSETH INFORMATION



Mike Brest
Washington Examiner
December 11, 2024

West Point has acknowledged it inaccurately informed a media outlet that President-elect Donald Trump's pick to lead the Department of Defense, Pete Hegseth, did not get accepted into the institution more than two decades ago.

Earlier Wednesday, Hegseth posted on social media that **ProPublica** "is planning to publish a knowingly false report that I was not accepted to West Point in 1999" without any additional information. He accompanied that with a picture of his acceptance letter into the institution.

Hegseth did not attend West Point but rather Princeton University, graduating in 2003.

A **ProPublica** editor subsequently acknowledged in response to Hegseth that they had been told by a West Point official that they had no record of his acceptance or even an application for him. That was inaccurate, and West Point later realized it and informed the outlet.

"A review of our records indicates Peter Hegseth was offered admission to West Point in 1999 but did not attend. An incorrect statement involving Hegseth's admission to the U.S. Military Academy was re-

leased by an employee on Dec. 10, 2024," West Point Directorate of Communications said in a statement to the **Washington Examiner**.

"Upon further review of an archived database, employees realized this statement was in error. Hegseth was offered acceptance to West Point as a prospective member of the Class of 2003. The academy takes this situation seriously and apologizes for this administrative error."

Hegseth has faced allegations of sexual assault, mismanaging funds at previous non-profit organizations, and abusing alcohol, which

(Hegseth; continued on page 6)



(Hegseth; continued from page 5)

have threatened to derail his nomination. He has denied the sexual assault allegation, which he was never charged for, and said it was a consensual encounter. He has also denied claims of his mismanagement and of having a drinking problem.

As he continues to meet with lawmakers on Capitol Hill, Hegseth has been combative toward the media and has claimed the accusations against him amount to a "smear" campaign.

While Republican senators have largely rallied around him, a couple

have expressed concerns about his past behavior.

Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA), a combat veteran and victim of sexual assault, has been one of Hegseth's biggest skeptics within the Republican Party. But she has since expressed an openness to his nomination following a pressure campaign from Trump's orbit and supporters.

Trump reiterated his support for Hegseth's nomination last weekend after reports surfaced that he had begun considering alternatives for the job.

During his time in the Army National Guard, Hegseth did tours in Guantanamo Bay, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

ProPublica has been at the forefront of a series of highly publicized stories alleging ethics violations by conservative Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito. The group is heavily funded by left-wing megadonors who have supported court-packing advocacy groups or efforts to expand the size of the Supreme Court, previous investigations by the **Washington Examiner** have uncovered

Marine Corps kicks off 250th anniversary with specially-minted coins; events planned throughout 2025

InsideNova Staff
InsideNova
(Northern Virginia's leading news source)
December 16, 2024

The **Marine Corps Heritage Foundation** and the U.S. Mint kicked off the Marine Corps 250th anniversary celebration by striking commemorative coins Dec. 4 at a ceremony held at the **Mint in Philadelphia**.

The gold, silver and clad coins depict iconic Marine Corps imagery, from the Iwo Jima flag-raising to historic and modern uniforms, all paying tribute to the Marine Corps' legacy of service and valor, according to a news release from the non-profit Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

More than one million commemorative coins can be minted for public release in 2025, allowing Americans nationwide to participate in the commemoration. **The Marine**



Maj. Gen. James Lukeman, president and CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, Kristie McNally, deputy director of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and Gen. Christopher Mahoney, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, showcase the first set of freshly minted Marine Corps 250th Anniversary Commemorative Coins.

Corps' 250th Anniversary coins will be the only commemorative

coins minted in 2025, the release

(2025; continued on page 7)



(2025; continued from page 6)
states.

More information about the coins can be found through the U.S. Mint. They will be available for purchase on Jan. 2 at U.S. Mint Sales at usmint.gov/marine-corps-anniversary-commemorative-coin/.

"The 250th birthday presents a historic opportunity to connect all Americans with their Marine Corps throughout the year," **retired Marine Maj. Gen. James Lukeman**, president and CEO of the foundation, said in the release. "For 250 years, Marines have fought for America's future and epitomized the honor, courage, and selfless service that the Marine Corps is famous for."

The 250th anniversary celebration will continue throughout 2025, showcasing the Marine Corps' warfighting legacy and values of honor, courage and commitment through nationwide programs and events.

"This celebration is not only about honoring the past but looking toward the future," Maj. Gen. Lukeman said. "As we mark 250 years of the Marine Corps, we are also paying tribute to the Marines currently serving today and future generations preparing to follow in their footsteps."

Some of the programs and events include:

50-state birthday cake cutting program

All 50 states are planning to hold a traditional Marine Corps-style cake

-cutting ceremony with participation from governors' offices, their Veterans Affairs offices and community leaders with cakes provided by the American Bakers Association.

"The baking industry is incredibly proud to partner with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps," Eric Dell, American Bakers Association president and CEO, said in the release. "This partnership reflects our collective gratitude for the courage and sacrifice of our nation's service members and the baking community's unwavering commitment to supporting our heroes."

Marine Corps PSA

The foundation has created a public service announcement TV commercial that celebrates the Marine Corps' 250th birthday. The PSA will air throughout 2025 across America. See it soon at Marine250.com.

Marines Across America

The program will highlight Marines who embody the values of honor, patriotism and service within their communities, according to officials.

Members of the public are encouraged to share stories of Marines they know, both active and veterans, who are making a difference in their community at either Marine250.com or using the hashtag #MarinesAcrossAmerica.

Sports events

As part of the celebration, sporting events will honor the Marine Corps throughout the year, from national events such as the Notre Dame vs. Navy football game and a NAS-CAR race at Martinsville that will

be called the Marine Corps 250, to local events including Minor League Baseball teams that will feature Marines with custom theme nights and "Marine of the Month" recognitions.

Additionally, the National Federation of State High School Associations will recognize the Marine Corps at more than 150 high school state championship games across the U.S., all in celebration of 250 years of the Marine Corps.

National Museum of the Marine Corps

At the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, visitors can explore Marine history and personal stories through new exhibits providing immersive experiences focused on the lives and missions of modern-day Marines.

"As we celebrate 250 years of Marine Corps history, the museum's newest exhibits offer visitors a unique opportunity to connect with the experiences of today's Marines," said Keil Gentry, director of the National Museum of the Marine Corps. "The museum is honored to be a part of this milestone and to have the opportunity to share the stories of the men and women who have served, and continue to serve, our country with pride and courage."

Traveling Combat Art Exhibit

Following the success of the inaugural traveling combat art exhibit, the 250th celebration will include the second traveling combat art ex-

(2025; continued on page 8)



(2025; continued from page 7)



55 Gold Coin



Silver Dollar Coin



Clad Half Dollar

The new coins honoring the Marine Corps' 250th birthday.

hibit titled "The U.S. Marine Corps Air-Ground Team."

The traveling exhibit will open in January at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, featuring unique artwork that captures Marine service and sacrifice. It will then tour the country throughout 2025 and 2026.

Library of Congress Exhibit

As part of the Marine Corps 250th anniversary celebration, the Library of Congress will curate a collections display of Marine-related artifacts from the library's collections, on display through October and November. The anniversary coincides

with the 25th anniversary of the Library's Veterans History Project, a grassroots effort aimed at collecting, preserving and making accessible the first-person narratives of U.S. military veterans from World War I through current conflicts. Learn more at loc.gov/vets.

Birthday in a Box

The Birthday in a Box program provides digital resources to communities, organizations and civic leaders nationwide, enabling them to host their own local Marine Corps birthday celebrations. Each kit will include materials such as event graphics, cake-cutting protocol guidelines and a brief history of the Marine Corps birthday, making it easy to participate in the nationwide celebration.

Honorary Marines

The foundation will celebrate the fewer than 100 people designated "Honorary Marines" by the Marine

Corps. The program honors civilians who have made extraordinary contributions to the Marine Corps. Notable Honorary Marines include actor and martial artist **Chuck Norris**, actor and philanthropist **Gary Sinise** and photographer **Joe Rosenthal**, who captured the iconic image of the flag-raising at **Iwo Jima**.

Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show

In collaboration with the *Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show*, **Lance Corp. Chesty XVI**, the Marine Corps' bulldog mascot named for famed Marine's **Marine Lt. Gen. Lewis "Chesty" Puller** -- and the Marine Corps will participate in the presentation of the colors on Feb. 10 and 11 to kick off the show at Madison Square Garden.



MISSION STATEMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

"The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines and FMF Navy Personnel who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism."

What will we be doing in the future to achieve this mission?





Saved Rounds



ALMARS : 034/24

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MSGID/GENADMIN/CMC WASHINGTON DC//

SUBJ/250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS//

GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. On 10 November 2025, the United States Marine Corps will celebrate our 250th birthday – a momentous occasion that honors two-and-a-half centuries of service, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to our Nation. Since our founding in Philadelphia in 1775, Marines have answered the call and fought bravely in every clime and place. Each generation forged warriors who have embodied our core values of honor, courage, and commitment.

2. For 250 years, Marines have served at the tip of the spear, standing ready when our Nation was least ready and resolute in the face of adversity – from the shores of Tripoli to the mountains of Afghanistan. This incredible legacy fortifies everyone who earns the title Marine, creating an unbreakable bond that ties us to the generations of Marines who came before us and ensuring that the ideals on which our Nation was founded will endure.

3. As we approach this significant anniversary, let us reflect on the extraordinary journey we share as a Corps. Our 250th birthday offers a unique opportunity to honor our veterans who paved the way, to connect deeply with our fellow Americans, and to inspire future generations to fight under the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor. Throughout 2025, we will engage in a nationwide campaign, featuring two national-level capstone events and six Marine Weeks across major cities, where we will proudly showcase the heart and soul of our Corps.

4. I call upon each of you – Marines, past and present – to participate in these celebrations with enthusiasm. Organize events within your commands, share stories of valor and comradeship, and let the world know what it truly means to be a Marine. Reflect on the reasons you joined, the sacrifices Marines have made, and the extraordinary bond that unites us. Together, let us celebrate not just our past, but the spirit that drives us forward.

5. As we stand on the brink of this historic celebration, remember that being a Marine is not just a duty – it is a calling that demands the best of us. Let us carry forward the torch of honor and commitment, illuminating the path for those who will follow. The future of our Corps shines brightly because of the legacy we build today. Together, we are not just part of a military branch. We are part of something greater than ourselves – an extraordinary journey marked by bravery, sacrifice, and unyielding loyalty.

6. Semper Fidelis, Marines.

7. Eric M. Smith, General, U.S. Marine Corps, Commandant of the Marine Corps.//



DETACHMENT BULLETIN BOARD

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Is Your Address Wrong?

Please send change of address
to:

Adjutant, Det 647
3279 Holly Mill Ct.
Marietta, GA 30062

email: mcldet647@gmail.com

ATTENTION TO ORDERS

...NOTICE...



Don't be a ring-a-dingy during our meeting. Turn off your dadgum phone **BEFORE** you receive that unimportant call.

CHAPLAIN'S INFORMATION

Chaplain Griffen would appreciate being notified of members or relatives in ill health or distress.

Call him at:

678-612-2345 or
email at: winwithgod@bellsouth.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

February Meeting
02/01/25
1100



February Birthdays



J. Bligh	19		



Heaven's Unit Diary



Editor's Ramblings



At ease Brig Rats. Fallout! Drop your swabs and shovels, line up with toes on the red line and listen up.

Have you noticed? This month's issue of the newsletter is all about the future. Including my following prediction:

First of all. Within 10 years there will be a female Commandant of the Marine Corps and/or a female Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. Believe it or not. Need proof? Browse the web to see the number of female Sergeants Major currently serving in major Marine Corp commands. You'll be amazed or maybe shocked.

I personally knew BGen. Reynolds, the first female CG of PI in 2011, who, in the blink of an eye, retired as a LtGen. In 2018. You may consider this an omen.

Likewise, SgtMaj. Maness. She was the first female SgtMaj of the MB, 8th&I and the first female SgtMaj. of MCRD, PISC; additionally, Maness, if memory serves me correct, was the first female Marine to wear the male version of the blue dress uniform, including the barracks cover.

I have no doubt that those female Marines I knew and those to follow will serve our future Corps with the distinction it deserves.

Check your six gentlemen. Those "ladies" are catching up, if they're not abreast already.

Semper Fi,



Bernie

<u>Marine</u>	<u>Tour of Duty</u>	<u>Date of Last Transfer</u>
Raymond G. Davis, COOH	1915-2003	3 Sept. 2003
Joseph O'Connor	1934-2009	14 Oct. 2009
Squire K. P. Wells	1994-2015	16 July 2015
Al Oeade	1937-2016	30 Apr. 2016
Dorothy Pollock	1920-2016	13 Aug. 2016
Robert Kitchen	1949-2017	21 Feb. 2017
John W. Delton	Unk-2017	23 Oct. 2017
Gene W. Whitten	1933-2017	12 Nov. 2017
George W. Lewis	1936-2020	28 Feb. 2020
George Bailey	1933-2020	18 June 2020
Raymond Frazier	1953-2021	1 Feb. 2021
Charlie B. Stephenson	1923-2021	21 Aug. 2021
Arthur Dunlea	1944-2021	1 Dec. 2021
Richard Wakefield	1943-2022	27 Oct. 2022
Harry Kone	1920-2022	30 Dec. 2022
Neal Lawrence	1938-2023	17 Oct. 2023



"This here is where the course starts getting a lot tougher."

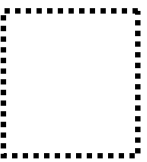


The seven words every Private hates to hear





Listen Up
c/o Editor
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Acworth, Ga 30101



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