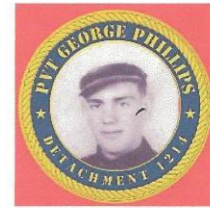




**Private George Phillips Detachment #1214
Marine Corps League
P.O. Box #1
Ballwin, MO 63022**



FORWARDING AND ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

TO:

ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE

All annual dues expire on August 31st of each year. Our membership dues are \$40.00 a year and are due prior to George Phillips Detachment" and send to the Detachment address.

This newsletter and previous issues can be obtained from the **new Detachment Website. <http://www.pvtgeophillips.org/>**

Please contact the Editor to receive future issues electronically.

As a suggestion, anyone wishing to provide material *should try* to have it to the editor no later than the *fourth Friday* of previous month. (This doesn't mean don't submit anything at all if you need more time, instead please contact the editor.) If sent via email, please note that newsletter submission should appear the subject line.



Next Meeting April 16 2024



April 2024
Volume XX – Issue 4

Commandant:
Brad McNeil
636-225-2866

Sr. Vice-Commandant
John Cooper
314-712-0738

Jr. Vice-Commandant
Joe Gentile
314-488-9440

Adjutant/Paymaster:
Dennis Simpson
636-230-5976

Judge Advocate
Public Information
Officer: Hugh Smith
636-484-4188

Benevolence:
Ed Rau:
314-378-7627

Sgt at Arms:
Gerald Gerling
636-271-3778

Chaplain
Carl E. Ramsey
314-304-7915

Web Sgt: Brad McNeil
636-225-2866



Meetings 3rd Tuesday
of Every Month
1930 – 7:30 PM



News and Reflections by and for Marines
And other Patriotic Americans

Published Monthly By

The Pvt George Phillips Detachment
Marine Corps League

Email

PvtGeoPhillips@gmail.com

Detachment Webpage

<http://www.pvtgeophillips.org/>
bmcneil@sbcglobal.net

Mail:

Pvt George Phillips Detachment
Marine Corps League
P.O. Box #1
Ballwin, MO 63022

Meeting Location:

225 Old Sulphur Springs Road
Ballwin, MO 63021-5356

Detachment
Membership as
of February 29

76

Trustee 3Yr:
Mike Cicchese
636-208-4676

Trustee 2Yr:
Andrew "AJ" Neely
314-550-8065

Trustee 1Yr:
Ed Rau:
314-378-7627

Jr. Past
Commandant
Ed Rau:
314-378-7627

Ways & Means:
Open

Quartermaster:
Tyler Gerling
636-252-6528

Eagle Scout

Liaison:
Joe Gentile
314-488-9440

Editor/Historian:
Carl E. Ramsey
314-304-7915

Commandant's Corner

ATTENTION ON DECK



To all members and associate members of our Private George Phillips detachment 1214, Marine Corps League. I am grateful for the honor and privilege to serve as your Commandant. Our April meeting is scheduled for the 16th at 1930 hours. I look forward to seeing all of you at that time; masks are optional.

On March 19th we had the swearing in of our officers for this year; it was conducted by Mike Lee from the Department of Missouri, who was visiting our detachment. We all look forward to serving our detachment.

I'm looking forward to see how much we can accomplish this year, and our first mission is our May collection. It will be held at the Sam's Club on Manchester Road, May 24, 25 and 26. We need volunteers. So, if you can spare an hour or two, please contact Hugh Smith at 636-484-4188 to schedule your shift.

We also, need someone to fill in for our Quartermaster, Tyler Gerling, who will be on leave during the spring and part of the summer. Please contact me or Dennis if you are interested in helping us out.

In the last staff and general meeting, we brought up purchasing a shed in which to move all of our equipment from our current storage facility. The reason behind this is Focus

Marines no longer needs the storage space. This leaves us shouldering the total cost, which seems to be rising every year. Purchasing our own shed would be a savings for the detachment, for we could have it paid for in a year. With that being said, we would like to take a vote on this issue in our April general meeting. We have already gotten approval from the American Legion to install one and they have given us the location. So, we hope to see you at the meeting.

As always Semper Fi Marines....

Brad McNeil, Commandant
Pvt. George Phillips Detachment # 1214
Marine Corps League Semper Fi
bmcneil@sbcglobal.net



Chaplain's Message

It is my sad duty to report the passing of detachment member Larry Decker on March 10, 2024, 19 days before his 78th birthday. An obituary is not available. He is survived by his wife Janet who has made arrangements for his grave side ceremony at Jefferson Barracks National Ceremony on Friday, May 17 at 12:30 pm. This time may change depending on an earlier visitation at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Ballwin, Missouri, located at 327 Woods Mill Road, just north of Highway 141 and Manchester Road on the west side across 141 from Cosco.

One verse comes to mind as I think of the passing of Larry and many other significant people I would classify as heroes, who left us in the past year. **Isaiah 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and lifted up and the train of his robe filled the temple.** Let me stop there and comment on King Uzziah. He was the greatest King of Judah during the previous generation. 2 Chronicles 26 says he had mighty men of war, numbering 2,600. It also says "In Jerusalem he made machines, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers, and corners, to shoot arrows and great stones." According to an Israeli military historian, this is the earliest mention of in the ancient world of artillery which would be used by all later armies until the invention of gunpowder. Let's not get into Uzziah's mistake which got him into trouble and punished by God. Let's stick with the theme, death of a hero who influenced your life and times. Let's go into the presence of God and see what he wants to do next. This usually leads to a revelation. In the case of Larry Decker and other heroes who have influenced us before they passed away in the previous year, let's wish them well, honor their memory, and go into the presence of God to see what he wants **US** to do next.

Carl Ramsey Chaplain

April 2024

5-6 – Mid West Division Conference
Capital Plaza, Jefferson City

415 W McCarty St 573-635-1234

10 – Staff Meeting – 1900 Post #208

16 – Membership Meeting – 1930 Post #208

May 2024

8 – Staff Meeting – 1900 Post #208

14 – Membership Meeting – 1930 Post #208

17 – Visitation and graveside ceremony for
Larry Decker (See Chaplain's column)

24-26 – Sams Club Collections Manchester

June 2024

7-8 – Department Convention hosted by 725
Sheraton Westport Chalet 191 W Poet Plaza

Dr St. Louis MO 63146 314 878n1500

Capital Plaza, Jefferson City

8-9 Saint Louis Air Show

415 W McCarty St 573-635-1234

12 – Staff Meeting – 1900 Post #208

18 – Membership Meeting – 1930 Post #208

July 2024

9 – Staff Meeting – 1900 Post #208

14 – Pvt George Phillips Birthday

16 – Membership Meeting – 1930 Post #208

August 2024

12-16 – National Convention Rancho Mirage
CA. For further Information Contact Dennis
Simpson.

September 2024

9 – Staff Meeting – 1900 Post #208

16 – Membership Meeting – 1930 Post #208

27 – Pat McCormick Golf tournament

See Brochure

MEMBERS MATTER

Larry Decker by Lyle McFarlin



Larry Decker, June 21, 2016

I was born 29 March 1946 in St. Louis, Missouri. I was raised in St. Louis and attended Central High School on Natural Bridge Road where I graduated in 1964. I worked as a draftsman for two years, marrying my lovely wife, Janet, in 1965.

I entered the Marine Corps on 5 August, 1966, attending boot camp at MCRD, San Diego, California. I was assigned to Camp Pendleton, California, for about a year and then was transferred to Cherry Point, North Carolina, where I was an Aviation Technician. I was sent to Vietnam on 5 February, 1968.

I spent thirteen months in Vietnam, returning stateside on 6 March 1969. I returned to St. Louis working, as an Electrician. I attended St. Louis University where I got a Bachelors' Degree in Computer Science. I then worked as a contract engineer until 2011 when I retired.

My wife Janet and I have no children but have

been successfully married for fifty-four years. I have one hobby, writing stories, and I am about to publish a book in a week or two, "Strange Tales from the Old Tet Survivors."

I joined the Private George Phillips detachment, Marine Corps League, at the suggestion of detachment member Carl Gordon. We went to boot camp together. I am a Lifetime Member. My health is not the best and I have not been able to attend meetings and other detachment events regularly but I hope to make the October meeting. [Which he did, the editor]

I am Larry Decker.



Carl Gordon, Kenneth Hale, Larry Decker, Boot Camp Platoon 1081, October 20, 2015



Larry Decker doing Collections, May 24, 2013

March Meeting following elections

Witnesses to ceremony included Harry Hope, Charles Scott, and Sean Jackson



Mike Lee from the Department of Missouri



Harry Hope



Charles Scott



Sean Jackson



Commandant Brad McNeil resumes command



Left to right: Sergeant at Arms Jerry Gerling, Newsletter Editor and Chaplain Carl Ramsey, Junior Vice Commandant, Joe Gentile, Commandant Brad McNeil, Senior Vice Commandant John Cooper, Adjutant and Paymaster Dennis Simpson, Judge Advocate and Public Information Officer Hugh Smith. Facilitating officer from department of Missouri (behind podium), Mike Lee.

April Birthday Scroll

John Bickerton Charles Corpening, Jr.

Elliot Glassman

James Grgurich Aaron Kent

Jerry Kisner Steven Lind

Auxiliary

Sheila Grgurich

Arleen Jackson

Marine Corps Humor

An old near-sighted gunnery sergeant was kicking and pounding on a piece of equipment in a laundromat.

When a terrified attendant asked him to stop, the old gunny said, "This machine won't dry my clothes."

The attendant said, "That's because it's a washer."

"Oh yeah," said the gunny. "By the time I get done with it, it will wish it was a dryer."

For older veterans, spouses, and or widows needing transportation.

Contact the County Older Residence Program.

It's totally free for seniors.

They will take you anywhere in Saint Louis County

Phone Number: 314 615 4516. Office Hours 8:00 Am to 5:00 PM

They will match the senior with a driver.

★
★
★

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SERVICE.
WE'RE HERE FOR
YOU IF YOU NEED US.**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

PACT ACT ELIGIBILITY



The PACT Act expands eligibility to VA benefits and services for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances.

Learn more at
va.gov/PACT



LET'S MEET



Schedule a virtual or in-person appointment with a VA benefits specialist at

vets.force.com/VAVERA



VIETNAM



GULF WAR



POST - 9/11



ASK ONLINE



Submit a question online at
ask.va.gov



GET LOCAL HELP



Find a Veterans Service Organization near you.

benefits.va.gov/vso/varo.asp



Speak to a VA benefits specialist by calling **1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)**



Marine Corps League Awards Order of Precedence



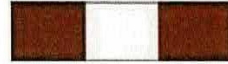
MCL Hero Medal



MCL Distinguished
Citizen — Gold Medal



MCL Distinguished
Citizen — Silver Medal



MCL Distinguished
Citizen — Bronze Medal



MCL Distinguished
Service — Bronze Medal



MCL Marine of the Year
Ribbon — National



MCL Associate Member of the
Year Ribbon — National



MCL Marine of the Year
Ribbon — Division



MCL Associate Member of the
Year Ribbon — Division



MCL Marine of the Year
Ribbon — Department



MCL Associate Member of
the Year Ribbon —
Department



MCL Marine of the Year Ribbon
— Detachment



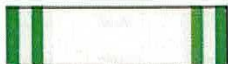
MCL Associate Member of the
Year Ribbon — Detachment



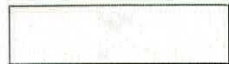
MCL National Recruiter —
Gold Medal



MCL National Recruiter —
Silver Medal



MCL National Recruiter —
Bronze Medal



MCL Past National
Commandant Medal



MCL National Staff
Elected Medal



MCL National Staff
Appointed Medal



MCL Past Department
Commandant Medal



MCL Department Staff
Elected Medal



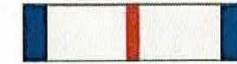
MCL Department Staff
Appointed Medal



MCL Department Recruiter —
Silver Medal



MCL Past Detachment
Commandant Medal



MCL Detachment Staff
Elected Medal



MCL Detachment Staff
Appointed Medal



MCL Detachment Recruiter —
Bronze Medal



MCL Community / VAVS Ribbon



MCL Board of Trustees
Commendation Ribbon
(Victor T. Fisher Award)



MCL National Meritorious
Commendation Ribbon



MCL Department
Meritorious Commendation
Ribbon



MCL Individual Meritorious
Commendation Ribbon



MCL Ceremonial Guard Ribbon



MCL Marksmanship
Rifle Ribbon



MCL Marksmanship
Pistol Ribbon



MODD Kennel Dog of the
Year Medal



MODD Chief Devil Dog
Meritorious Commendation
Ribbon



MODD Pack Dog of the Year
Medal



MODD Pack Leader Meritorious
Commendation Ribbon



MODD Pound Dog of the Year
Medal



MODD Pound Keeper
Individual Meritorious
Achievement Ribbon



MODD Past Chief Devil Dog
Medal



MODD Past Pack Leader Medal



MODD Past Pound Leader
Medal



MCL Membership Medal



MCL 100th Anniversary
Ribbon
(gold frame for convention attendees)



MCL 75th National Convention
— Silver Medal
(elected / appointed)



MCL 75th National Convention
— Bronze Medal
(attendee)



MCL 50th National Convention
— Silver Medal
(elected / appointed)



MCL 50th National Convention
— Bronze Medal
(attendee)

Marine Corps League
Department of Missouri
1 March 2024



Department of Missouri Website	momcl.org Password: dd14
Department of Missouri Facebook	Marine Corps League Department of Missouri
Midwest Division Website	midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org
Midwest Division Facebook	Marine Corps League-Midwest Division
National Website	mcinational.org Password: dd4
National Facebook	The Marine Corps League
Informal Sharing on Facebook	Marine Corps League Connections Must answer 3 questions <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Are you an MCL Member?2. What Detachment?3. What Department?
Marine Corps League Honor Guard Color Guard Facebook	Marine Corps League Honor Guard/Color Guard
MODD Website	militaryorderofthedevildogs.org
MODD Midwest Division Website	Midwest Division – MODD
MODD Kennel Facebook	Military Order of the Devil Dogs - Kennel

Department of Missouri

2024 Convention

The Department of Missouri Convention will be held June 7-9, 2024
Hosted by St. Charles County Marines Detachment #725

Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel
191 Westport Plaza Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63146

Hotel phone 314-878-1500
Deadline for hotel registration May 17, 2024
Banquet and Hospitality \$70.00
Hospitality only \$10.00
Banquet only \$60.00
League Registration Fee \$5.00 (League Members Only)

Make Checks payable to St. Charles County Marines Detachment #725

Mail to:
Janice Hertley
2013 Collier Blvd.
O'Fallon, Mo. 63366-3353

Banquet selection Deadline May 25, 2024
Click here for [2024 Missouri Convention Registration Form](#)

2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION

WESTIN RANCHO MIRAGE GOLF RESORT AND SPA

7133 Dinah Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

You may book two (2) rooms with your name. 30 days prior to the convention, you must provide the hotel with the second name.
CUTOFF FOR RESERVATIONS IS JULY 8, 2024. Reservations after that will be at the prevailing rate on space available.

HOTEL RESERVATION LINK

HOTEL RESERVATION PHONE: (888) 627-7086

RESERVATION CODE: "MCL" or "Marine Corps League"

Dates: Monday August 12, 2024 to Friday, August 16, 2024

Rates are **\$159 single** (one person in room) & include breakfast Monday through Saturday for one (1) and are inclusive of taxes, resort fee, and parking.

Rates are **\$169 double** (two persons in room) & include breakfast Monday through Saturday for two (2) and are inclusive of taxes, resort fee, and parking.



SCHEDULE