LISTEN UP!





VOLUME XXVI, Number 4

Commandant: Joseph M. Kier

April 2013 Editor: Joseph M. Kier

Hagel Orders Review of Drone Medal Ranking

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has ordered a review of the new Distinguished Warfare Medal following complaints from veterans groups and lawmakers about its ranking above the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, a senior defense official said Tuesday.

The review, to be led by Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey, will look at whether the order of precedence for the new medal should be changed, but will not consider eliminating it. The new medal, announced last month, is designed to honor "extraordinary actions" of drone pilots and other off-site troops performing noteworthy deeds on far-away battlefields. The honor is still months away from being awarded for the first time, and no known candidates have been nominated for the recognition. But veterans groups and lawmakers have savaged the new award almost from its introduction, dubbing it the "Nintendo Medal" and "Purple Buttocks."

Representatives from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and the Military Order of the Purple Heart have petitioned Pentagon leaders and the White House to reconsider the medal's ranking, saying it should not be place above honors earned on the battlefield.



Members of the House and Senate have also requested a review of the ranking, and introduced legislation to force the Pentagon to lower its placement.

In letters sent out Thursday responding to concerns from Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., and other lawmakers and veterans groups, Hagel wrote that he had discussed the medal with the service chiefs and accepted their opinion that the award is at the appropriate level.

"Since Sept. 11, 2001, technological advancements have, in some cases dramatically changed how we conduct and support combat and other military operations," Hagel wrote. "Accordingly the [Distinguished Warfare Medal] award criteria intentionally does not include a geographic limitation on the award, as it is intended for use as a means to recognize all servicemembers who meet the criteria, regardless of the domain used or the member's physical location."

The award is meant to reward a single extraordinary act that affects combat, Hagel wrote.

"It recognizes a specific type of contribution that is vital to the defense of our nation. It in no way degrades or minimizes our nation's other important awards or the tremendous sacrifices of our men and women who earn these prestigious recognitions," he wrote.

Other noncombat medals already rank higher than the Bronze Star, which usually recognizes valor, he pointed out. The Medal of Honor, Service Crosses and Silver Star, which are awarded solely for heroism in combat, remain higher in prestige than the new warfare medal, Hagel noted.

But now the defense review will re-examine those issues.

Dempsey is expected to consult with the service chiefs about the new honor before completing his final report.

Department Meeting Schedule.

- 2013 NATIONAL NORTHEAST DIVISION CONFRENCE 21-23 MARCH MATAMORAS, PA
- 2013 Department of PA
 Convention 12-16 June Park
 Inn by Radisson,
 Mechanicsburg, PA
- 2013 FALL STAFF MEETING
 18-19 OCTOBER, FORT
 INDIANTOWN GAP, PA

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CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, INC. #636

P. O. Box 1372 Doylestown, PA 18901-1372 Meets 7:30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday of Month American Legion Post 210 315 North Street, Doylestown, PA

COMMANDANT

Joseph Kier Sr. 215-822-1036 joseph.kier@verizon.net

SR. VICE COMMANDANT

A. J. (Jack) Gentile 215-968-2291 jgentile@singerequipment.com

JR. VICE COMMANDANT

Vincent DeBella 215-514-2237 vincdebe@aol.com

ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER

James Powell, PC 215-862-6280 usmc80@comcast.net

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Donald Parzanese Sr., PC 215-491-3275 donparzsr1@verizon.net

QUARTERMASTER

Corey Fisher 215-822-6898 cbquartermaster@aol.com

<u>CHAPLAIN</u>

DON PARZANESE Jr. 267-404-2152 donald.parzanese@us.army.mil

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

BOB SUNDLING, PC 215-348-8925 sundling@tiniusolsen.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Joseph Kier Sr.

MESS SERGEANT

Vincent DeBella

WEB SERGEANT

James Powell, PC

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN



Marines,

We had a great meeting on March 13th, and nominations and elections were held by **Junior Past Commandant Budd Pearce.** All positions were filled and we have two new Officers **Bill McBride** will be our Judge Advocate, and **Sam DiValentino** will be our new Chaplin. If you can, please come out to the Detachment meeting on April 10th, to welcome them and all of our newly elected/appointed Officers.

Jim Powell, PC and I attended the Spring Staff meeting and MODD Growl on March 15th -16th. There was some great information passed along at the meetings, and I want to highlight some of the key points here.

The National NE Division Vice Commandant **Dennis Tobin** touched on some key issues with Dues transmittals and notifications. The bottom line was that at this point in time the Detachments need to keep up with their own numbers and need to keep sending out reminders to the own members, as the National system is still being brought up to speed. So we will continue to send out letters and emails on members' dues and to delinquent members. For right now if you know your dues are due send them to Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC., and the only notification of dues we will go by until further notice is one sent out from our Detachment. Also once your dues are paid if you do not receive a new Membership card in a timely fashion contact me so we can straighten it out. He also touched on the 990 forms and EIN numbers. We have all of our information squared away but he said if everything is not squared away by September the IRS will start revoking charters, so thanks once again to Don Parzanese Sr PC, and Jim Powell, PC for all their hard work on getting the Detachment squared away on those issues.

There was an Educational Session from the professional development program on Leadership, that we will probably see come up at the next staff meeting. It was very educational and I think we all could take something from the course.

We need to nominate and vote on the Department and National Marine of the Year from our Detachment so I can submit the paperwork in time to be reviewed We were reminded by Department Judge Advcate Leanna Dietrich, PDC that we cannot fundraise in another Detachments Municipality. For example we cannot fundraise in Upper Darby, and the Detachment in Upper Darby cannot fundraise in Doylestown, however they could fundraise in Warrington, as we could fundraise in Broomall if we chose to do so.

If a burial staff is needed the requester or their representative must call HQ USMC at 1-866-826-3628. All funeral detail arrangements must start from there.

For the Rifle match this year the teams that are submitted on the initial paperwork are the teams we must shoot with, so in turn if you say you are coming and don't show up you will be essentially taking the rifle team, that you are on out of the running for an award, except in the case of an emergency.

There is a bus trip from the Department Convention this year on June 14th to 8th and I, the cost is \$35.00.

The Department Meetings for the remainder of the year are as follows, June 12-16 Dept. Convention, October 18-19 Fall Staff Meeting, January 3-5 Winter Staff Meeting.

We were reminded that all weapons forms for the Detachment Weapons need to be filled out and returned to the Department Adjutant as soon as possible. We were also told that these weapons can no longer be stored in a private residence, so in turn we need to find a place to store our rifles.

That's all I have for now, see you at the April meeting.

Semper Fi,



Joseph M. Kier



CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636

OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONY

Come out to see our Newly Elected and Appointed officers get sworn in by District 2 Vice Commandant, our own, Bill Miller, PC at the Detachment Meeting on April 10th, 2013 starting at 1930.

Elected

Commandant – Joseph Kier

Sr. Vice Commandant – Anthony "Jack " Gentile

Jr Vice Commandant – Vincent DeBella

Adjutant/Paymaster – Jim Powell, PC

Judge Advocate – William McBride

Appointed

Sgt at Arms – Robert Sundling, PC

Chaplain – Samuel DiValentino

Quartermaster – Cory Fisher

Public Relations/Newsletter Editor – Joe Kier

Historian/Web Sergeant – Jim Powell, PC



<u>Proceeds from the program below benefit the Marine Corps League</u> Foundation of PA Inc.

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From: Doylestown Hospital

595 West State Street Doylestown, PA 18901

215-345-2200 www.dh.org

To: Marine Corps League

Central Bucks Detachment #636

P.O. Box 1372

Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

Dear Commandant,

Doylestown Hospital is very fortunate to have over 1,000 generous men and women serving as Volunteers in our organization. In April we celebrate these fine Volunteers with a luncheon at Spring Mill Manor in Ivyland. Our theme this year is "Doylestown Hospital Volunteers-Always Ready to SERVE" with decorations and events having a patriotic tribute. At the luncheon we would like to have a color guard inside the door as our Volunteers enter the building and a presentation of the flags at the beginning of the luncheon to accompany the Pledge of Allegiance. As many of our Volunteers proudly represent all branches of the military through their past and present service, I know the color guard would be especially meaningful to them. Don Parzanese is one of these fine Volunteers. He suggested that I write this letter to ask if your organization might be able to provide a color guard for our luncheon. The event is scheduled for Thursday, April 18". The Volunteers begin to arrive around 11:30 with the luncheon officially starting at noon. The presentation would be first on our program. The members of the color guard would be welcome to join us for lunch.



(CONTINUED)

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USMC

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Wednesday, April 3, 2013

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(CONTINUED)



Dedication of Memorial Marker

For Samuel Nicholas

First Commandant of

The United States Marine Gorps

June 1, 2013 at One PM

Friends Meeting House

3rd and Arch Streets,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Samuel Nicholas



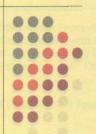
1st Commandant of the Marine Corps (1775-1783)

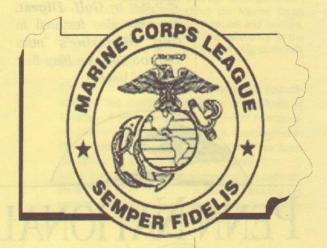


(CONTINUED)

2013 Annual Golf Outing

To Benefit
Marine Corps League
of Pennsylvania
Foundation, Inc.





E-mail: admin@mclofpafoundation.org

Website: http://mclofpafoundation.org/



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24 August 2013 for more info go to mclofpafoundation.org



(CONTINUED)

Hello Pennsylvania Marines!

LtCol Tim Maxwell, USMC (Ret) here. I was a friend of Seamus Garrahy, which I'm sure many of you knew. For those of you who don't know who I, or Seamus Garrahy are, let me try to explain.

Like many of you, I am a retired Marine. But I'm medically retired, unfortunately. I was hit by a mortar round in Kalsu, Iraq, in 2004. Pretty bad situation, I've heard. Two pieces of shrapnel punched through my skull and chopped up my brain. When I woke up in National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, no one expected me to ever walk or talk again. Luckily, I recovered more than they had expected. I worked directly for General Amos, the Commanding Officer of II MEF. My main mission was to get better, of course. But my second mission was to travel and meet wounded Marines/Corpsmen. During that time, I met some amazing people. I met warriors who had served in World War II (Iwo Jima!), Korea, Vietnam, and of course Iraq and Afghanistan.

One of them was a Marine from the 1950s. While not directly involved in any combat, he was very positive on Marine, as well as warriors of other service. Living in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, warriors would travel to see him, talk about the Corps, talk about the Civil War, and finish the day with a "steak and beer". He has created his own steak sauce and called it "Gung-Ho! Sauce". And it is EXCELLENT. It was a great time, and everybody enjoyed his presence. His name was Seamus Garrahy, and despite his efforts, he passed away due to cancer last January, 2012. Before he died, he had asked me and my wife to continue the Gung-Ho Sauce. Being the simple Marine that I am, I told him I would.

Never having held a business, and with about 33% of my brain gone, it was probably a stupid promise. But as you understand, when a Marine gives a promise, he keeps it. And that's what I am trying to do. Now, I have opened a business, created a webpage (www.gung-ho-supplies.com), and we (my son and his friends did it. I can't do much, as I am handicapped) have unloaded LOTS of Gung Ho Sauce. By lots I mean thousands of bottles. They are all over our house. Thank goodness we have a basement!

While I suspect that Marine Corps Detachments don't advertise for businesses, I was hoping you could just spread the word to your Marines about the webpage. If you can do it, I would surely appreciate it.

Here's the website and the other contact information:

www.gung-ho-supplies.com

Gung-Ho! Supplies

703-670-8361

max@gung-ho-supplies.com

17949 Main Street #769

Dumfries, Va 22026

If you want to find out about me,

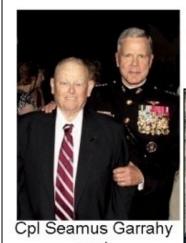
you can go to our foundations webpage.

www.SemperMax.org

Thank you very much for thinking about it.

Semper Fidelis

Tim Maxwell



Cpl Seamus Garrahy and General Amos



MONTHLY DETACHMENT MEETING



The regular meeting of Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held March 13, 2013, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA. There were 17 members present including all officers except Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr., PC and Chaplain Don Parzanese Jr. who were excused. Distinguished members in attendance included Past Commandants Budd Pearce, Bob Sundling, Don Gee, Department of Pennsylvania Junior Vice Commandant and Past Detachment Commandant Jim Powell, Past Department of New Jersey Commandant and Past National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Ed Hoth and Marine of the Year Vince DeBella.

New Members: John Ketterer and Scott Condello.

The **Minutes** of the January Meeting as published in *Listen Up!* were adopted. There were no minutes for February as no meeting was held due to a quorum not being met.

Sick and Distressed: Don Gee, PC reported that Marine Bill Mickelson is still not doing well. He is asking for members to contact him. Commandant Joe Kier reported that Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr, PC was in the emergency room this morning with some heart issues and that he was home and doing well.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Joe Kier reported on the Staff Meeting held on February 4th. It was a training class from the Marine Corps League Professional Development Program on Meetings. He also let the membership know that all are welcome to attend the Staff Meetings.

Addressed the members about Col. Maxwell taking over the selling of Shamus Garrahy's Gung Ho Sauce and that all proceeds go to goes to Wounded Veterans and their families.

Announced that he will be attending the Department Staff Meeting on March 15th and 16th and if anyone was interested in attending to contact him for information.

Announced that he will be attending the North East Division Conference March 22nd and 23rd and if anyone was interested in attending to contact him for information.

Reported that Doylestown Hospital is requesting our Color Guard for a special event to honor their 1000 volunteers on April 18th at 1130. If anyone is interested please contact the Commandant or the Sergeant-At-Arms.

Reported that the dues for the Chamber of Commerce are now due.

Received from the Guardians of the National Cemetery at Washington's Crossing a thank you and their Dinner Book that we placed an ad in and made it available to view.

Reported on the Marines Helping Marines of the Marine Corps League raffling off a 1960 CJ Jeep to support their programs. Tickets are \$10 apiece or 3 for \$25. Contact him if interested in purchasing tickets.

Announced that on June 1st the dedication of the headstone for the First Commandant of the Marine Corps, Samuel Nicholas will take place. Detachments are being encouraged to attend and bring their colors.

Reported on the thank you card received from the Philadelphia Comfort House for the donation the Detachment sent.

Received from the Central Bucks Recorder of Deeds a copy of their first Veterans Directory and made copies available to the membership.

Senior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile reported that the Detachment had 39 regular members of which 2 are dual, 25 life members and 6 associates for a total of 70.

MONTHLY DETACHMENT MEETING (CONTINUED)

MINUTES

Junior Vice Commandant Vince DeBella reported that the next Valley Forge Gun Show in Warminster will be held on April 6th and 7th. Those wishing to help should contact him as soon as possible to sign up. Reported that we recruited several possible members from the last show.

He also spoke about the possibility of doing a pancake breakfast for spaghetti dinner. He will have more information at our next meeting.

He is starting to work on a possible Golf Tournament for this year.

Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC presented the Paymaster's financial report. It was adopted.

Reported on the Pennsylvania Pack fundraiser. They are raffling off gift certificates to Sgt. Grit and anyone interested in supporting this cause please contact him.

Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr., PC was excused.

Public Relations Officer Joe Kier set March 20th as the deadline for submitting material for the next *Listen Up!* Newsletter.

Historian Don Gee, PC had nothing to report.

Assistant Chaplain Budd Pearce had nothing to report.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC reported on the Young cold weather survival training. Everything went well and everyone had a great time.

Heather Slwinski and her son have started a foundation to help wounded soldiers and are attached to Group 57 at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. They are a subsidiary and an official non-profit. They will be having a walkathon in June and would like the Detachment to sponsor the Young Marines that will participate in it. He will have more information forthcoming.

The Young Marines will again this year sponsor a trip to 8th&I and the Night Parade on the last Friday in August. They will be stopping at the Marine Corps National Museum. Anyone wishing to go should contact him for more information.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported on sales of \$31.60.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pistol Team – this year's match will be held on May 31 thru June 2nd. On June 2nd gun manufacturers will be sponsoring demos of their weapons and a National Postal Match will be held. Forms should be in already, but if you are interested in joining the team the forms can be downloaded from the Department Website, filled out and send to **Commandant Kier** to be submitted. Rooms can be reserved thru Joe or you can reserve one on your own.

Rifle Team – this year's match will be held Labor Day weekend, August 31 thru September 2nd at Reade Range near Altoona, Pennsylvania. On Sunday, June 2nd if we are completed early there may be a possibility for shooting from the 1000 yard line. Forms should be in by April 1st, but if you are interested in joining the team the forms can be downloaded from the Department Website, filled out and send to **Bud Pearce**, **PC** to be submitted. Rooms can be reserved thru Bud or you can reserve one on your own.

MONTHLY DETACHMENT MEETING (CONTINUED)



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Bud Pearce held nominations and elections for the 2013-2014 slate of Detachment Officers.

Those elected were as follows:

Commandant Joe Kier
Senior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile
Junior Vice Commandant Vince DeBella
Judge Advocate Bill McBride
Chaplain Sam DiValentino
Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell

Those **appointed** are as follows:

Sergeant-At-Arms

Quartermaster

Web Sergeant

Public Relations/Newsletter

Mess Sergeant

Bob Sundling

Corey Fisher

Jim Powell

Joe Kier

Vince DeBella

The Adjutant/Paymaster cast 1 unanimous for the slate of Officers.

NEW BUSINESS

Don Gee, PC made a motion to not renew our membership to the Doylestown Chamber of Commerce. It was seconded by **Jim Powell, PC** and was passed by the body.

Jim Powell, PC made a motion to purchase 3 tickets for the MHM CJ Jeep raffle. It was seconded by Don Gee, PC and was passed by the body.

Commandant Joe Kier made a motion on behalf of Don Parzanese Sr. for the Detachment to pay the yearly dues of any current <u>member</u> of the Detachment when he/she goes into or is already in a Veterans Home or a Nursing Facility. This does not cover any member that is in an Assisted Living Facility. The dues shall be paid while said member is in such facility. It was seconded by **Bud Pearce**, **PC**. The motion carried.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member John Ketterer announced that he would be having surgery next week.

Don Gee, PC announced that a gentleman named John Weir was hosting a War Stories event on April 3rd at the Union Library in Hatboro on South York Road.

Don Gee, PC announced that this would be Ed Hoth's last meeting with the Detachment as he is moving to Hazlett, New Jersey.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 1930 on Wednesday, April 10, 2013.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

IMPORTANT DATES

CAPRIO Jr.	Paul	midupe@aol.com
CLYMER	Jessica A.	usmcff5@yahoo.com
CONCORDIA	Michael L.	m.concordia@verizon.net
DeBELLA	Vincent	vincdebe@aol.com
DiVALENTINO	Samuel J.	samathome1218@yahoo.co

DIVALENTINO

Samuel J.

Samathome1218@yahoo.com

EMERY

Phillip D.

p_emery@comcast.net

feLIU

Vicence

feliu@law.villanova.edu

cbquartermaster@aol.com

GEE

Don H.

Usmccca@aol.com

GENTILE Joseph F. joeypgentile@gmail.com
GENTILE David dgentile1985@gmail.com
GENTILE Anthony J. jgentile@singerequipment.com

GENTILE Steven A. sgentile89@aol.com HAGAN Vincent J. vincent.hagan@pnc.com **HOFFMAN** Jason thehoffmans4@yahoo.com Edward W. edhothusmc@aol.com HOTH **JASIEWICZ** Ed edjasiewicz@comcast.net KIER Sr. Joseph M. joseph.kier@verizon.net KLEVA Richard P. aquafun2@aol.com KOHLER William C. mustangcaptbill@cox.net KOPP Jacob T. jkopp14@mac.com

LEFEVER Carl A. carllefever@yahoo.com MARTUSCIELLO aldomartx@gmail.com Aldo Michael, J. michael.mattie@lpl.com MATTIE **McBRIDE** William G. jabcaat@verizon.net **McCOMB** James E. jim mccomb@verizon.net McGINNISS Hugh ginniss2@comcast.net MICKELSON William L. billmikelson@verizon.net William R. billjae2@verizon.net MILLER Robert A. mombo@starlinx.com MOMORELLA MONAHAN Frederick fredmonahan@gmail.com

MURRAY Kenneth M. giashot@gmail.com
PARZANESE Jr. Donald D. donparzanese@us.army.mil
PARZANESE Sr Donald D. donparzsr1@verizon.net
PARZANESE Sr. Anthony J. tonyparz@hotmail.com
PEARCE III Ellis M. buddpearce@comcast.net
POPP Staci L staci1978@vahoo.com

POPP Staci L. staci1978@yahoo.com usmc80@comcast.net **POWELL** James **PURA** John A. purateam@aol.com newlineelectric@gmail.com RUBIN David **SCHEETZ** Larry scheetzsr@yahoo.com **SCOTT** Richard G. richgscott@gmail.com Gary J. sgarysemperfi@aol.com **SMITH** SPILLANE Jr. John J. spillane3@verizon.net

tomspoltore1@verizon.net **SPOLTORE** Thomas A. **SUNDLING** Robert M. rsundling@tiniusolsen.com bsundling@tiniusolsen.com SUNDLING Robert A. **TUTTLE** j tuttle85@yahoo.com Justin VANDEGRIFT Jr. iarhead219@gmail.com Benjamin F. WALDRON Michael waldron@quigleyco.com

WALDRON Paul A. pwal534589@aol.com
WARNER F. Donald 62tarry@gmail.com
WEIGAND Roy G. rgweigand@verizon.net
WEIR Steve moonrocket48@aol.com

WEIR Steve moonrocket48@aol.com
WIMER Leland leewimer@aol.com
YEASTED Vincent J. vyeasted@comcast.net

EASTER DAY
31 MARCH

OFFICER INSTALLATION
10 APRIL

TAX DAY 15 APRIL

ADMINISTRATIVES
PROFESSIONALS DAY
24 APRIL

DETACHMENT MEETING 8 MAY

> MOTHER'S DAY 12 MAY

> MEMORIAL DAY 27 MAY

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DEPARTMENT OF PA
PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIPS
31 MAY-2 JUNE

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE"

<u>Appli</u>	ication for Membership—Marii	ne Corps League				
Full Name		Phone				
Street Address	City	State	ZIP	+		
Date of Birth E-mail address						
Date of Enlistment/Commissioning	Date of Discharg	e/Retirement/Separation				
Type of Application - New() Renewal (() Membershi	ip Type Regular ()	Associate ()	Dual ()		
Have you ever been convicted of a felony? YES () NO () conviction for co	If YES is checked, I agree to wa	, .	vacy Act and disc	close the nature of the felony		
I hereby apply for membership in the membership.	Detachment,	Marine Corps League an	id enclose \$	for one year's		
Further, I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have serve Eagle, Globe and Anchor, * or have served or am currently servin Points or that I have served or am currently serving as a U.S. Navy Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon authindicating "Honorable Service". ("Honorable Service" will be defining the National Executive Director, Marine Corps League to obtain Personnel Files (OMPF), and/or verification of honorable service understand the DD Form 214 may contain information such as in Article 6, Section 600")	ng in the U.S. Marine Corps Resign Corpsman who has trained with corized for FMF Corpsmen. If distinct by the last DD Form 214 or pplication, I hereby agree to provious an un-redacted copy of my late the if deemed necessary to verify	serve and have earned no less had marine FMF Units in excess charged, I am in receipt of Certificate of Discharge that ide proof of honorable servicest DD Form 214 from the my eligibility for regular	ess than ninety (90) ess of ninety (90) a DD Form 214 at the applicant re tec/discharge upor Marine Corps of membership in the	b) Reserve Retirement Credit days and earned the Marine or a Certificate of Discharge excived). General Discharge request. I hereby authorize ustodian of Official Military the Marine Corps League. I		
Sponsor (where applicable)		Applican	t's Signature			