



# Marine Corps League



## MIDWEST DIVISION IA, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD 16 August 2016

To all Marines and Corpsman of the Midwest Division, Past National Vice Commandants, Midwest Division Staff, Midwest Division Department Commandant's, Sr. VCDD, Kennel Mad Dog, Midwest Division VCDD. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for allowing me to be your representative for the Midwest Division. I request any ideas you have that may improve our Division, along with your guidance and assistance. The Assistant Division Vice Commandant, David Ossian, and I will do our very best to keep you informed of all ongoing activities within the Midwest Division, Marine Corps League, United States Marine Corps, and all other worthy news items. The information you receive will be accurate and complete. We will not pass along any gossip or rumors, and request of you the same. The Marine Corps League has lived with gossip and rumors for much too long and it is time to go beyond rumor and deal with facts. I am sure there will be times in the future when we may question the decisions and wisdom for some of the events around us but history may tell us it was the right thing to do at the time.

I plan to deliver by e-mail if possible a Midwest Division News update to each of you, if any of you have information you would like to share with the Division, please submit it so it may be included in the news update. I would like to release the information each quarter, but it may slip to every six months if news is slow in coming. As urgent news becomes available it will be released when received.

To enable the line of communications to work I request each of you to furnish your e-mail address, residence or office address you would prefer to be used if you only receive snail mail, and telephone number. None of the requested information will be available outside the Division, or Marine Corps League.

**Midwest Division Staff:** The Midwest Division Staff Roster is complete, I would like to

thank each and every one of you that agreed to be or to remain a staff member for the Midwest Division. Your assistance is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

**Records:** From *Department Commandant's, Paymasters, Chaplain's*, I request the following: An electronic copy of your Department & Detachment's ROI, Not for Profit filing with your state for the current year, up to date 990-N, Transmittals for your Detachment's, Life Member Audit, Notice of Death. My goal is to have all Midwest Division information readably available, and complete. When a question arises it can be answered immediately. National is currently doing a tremendous job with all information they receive, and turn around is a lot better, 1 – 5 days, but to insure it continues and is correct, a copy will be kept at Division.

I ask the Department Commandant's, or member of your staff to forward the information to all Department members. One way to reduce the rumor mill is to have all information available for all to see.

Bylaw changes that were approved at the 93<sup>rd</sup> National Convention will cause important changes in the membership due date and cost of renewals of non-life members for this upcoming years dues, the change will go into effect 31 August 2016, but a grace period was extended until 31 August 2017 so the League can figure out how it will be done. I will ask the Division Training Staff to include this and other changes in bylaws that involve H-AD, Honorary Active Duty, and any other information that needs to be covered at the Division Fall conference training session in Jefferson City.

On a positive note, the Marine Corps League Budget is currently in the BLACK by an estimated amount of \$151,487.00.

The Law Suit between the Past Executive Director and the Marine Corps League is over. No additional information released.

A reminder the 2017 National Conference will be in Overland Park, KS August 13 – 18, 2017. Information may be found at the Department of Kansas web site, [mclkansas.com](http://mclkansas.com) and click on 2017 MCL National Convention. At 1500 08-16-16 the hotel had a total of 103 rooms remaining.

Midwest Division Fall Conference will be September 30 through October 2, 2016. Hosted by the Samuel F. Gearhart Det. Contact person is Past NVC David Hunter. Make check payable to: Samuel F. Gearhart Det. Mail to David Hunter 1820 Bald Hill Rd Jefferson City, MO.65101. Capitol Plaza Hotel – 573-635-1234.

*Semper Fidelis,*

*Harvey L. Harris*

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“Once A Marine, Always A Marine”