



SOUND OFF

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CHOCTAW
DETACHMENT 778

Oct-Dec 2021

The #1 Newsletter
in all of the
Marine Corps League



The Marine Corps turns 246!!!

Department Staff meeting and awards

Veteran Parade



Commandants Message

I'd like to start out this message by saying how proud I am of everyone who has stepped up in the past few months to help this Detachment progress. We have made leaps and bounds over the last two years and I'd like to continue to do this for the future. I have only 7 months left as Commandant of the Detachment and during that time we have a lot going on.

I want to call out to all our members especially those of you who haven't made a meeting or an event in a while. Check out our website calendar see what we got going on and come participate in something. We are hosting a very large conference in March right here in Baton Rouge and the entire National Staff will be there. Help us make a great impression on all our visiting guest. If you can attend come participate, volunteer, or come hang out, most importantly just come. We do have to register you but the Detachment pays for all attendees we just need to know you want to come attend. So reach out to me, my contact information is on the next page.

We are Marines as Marines we will continue to push forward and complete our missions as they come. Our Detachment is the most active in the state but we need more camaraderie. We have some but there are other Detachments in our state who have a better camaraderie with one another from top to bottom of their Detachment. We

need to learn from this as the camaraderie makes the Detachment stronger.

If you have suggestions please reach out to us. We are constantly looking for the leaders of tomorrow and value your input to make our Detachment even better. The main thing is get involved any way you can. Weather you have a little or a lot of time, get involved when you can.

We will continue to work on our Detachment as it is a constant evolution. I look forward to finishing this term strong. My finish line as Detachment Commandant is near but the Detachment is in good hands. I look forward to continuing the journey through the Marine Corps League with you all.

Semper fi.

Detachment Breakfast

Every Tuesday @ 0800

Frank's Restaurant
8353 Airline Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA

Weekend Breakfast

15 Jan @ 0900 Another Broken Egg
2531 Citiplace Ct #100

Meeting Dates

Detachment 1830 @ BRPD Training Center

9 Dec Christmas Party
4 Jan Regular Meeting
1 Feb Regular Meeting

Department

5 Feb Dept. Spring Staff Meeting Houma, LA

Division

24-27 Mar 2022 Southeast Division Conf. Holiday Inn South Baton Rouge, LA

National

24-26 Feb 2022 Mid-Winter Conference Norfolk, VA Sheraton Norfolk

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2021-2022 CHOCTAW DETACHMENT OFFICERS



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verouchi@gmail.com



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(225) 278-3625
fjmuscar@bellsouth.net



Junior Vice Commandant
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Judge Advocate
Ray Gendron
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jraygend@gmail.com



Jr. Past Commandant
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dbcon@hotmail.com



Adjutant
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don-judy1@att.net



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Quartermaster
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225-305-0323
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Historian
Vacant

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Uniform of the Day
7-8 Dec 1500-1700	Toys 4 Tots	BASF 37269 Hwy 30 Geismer, LA	Any or none
9 Dec 1830-2100	Detachment Christmas Party	VFW Zachary Taylor Post 13214 S. Choctaw Dr.	Red Jacket or business casual
18 Jan 1800-1900	Membership Committee Meeting	Isabella's Pizzeria 10330 Airline Hwy	None
18 Jan 1900-2000	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Isabella's Pizzeria 10330 Airline Hwy	None
5 Feb 0800-0900 TBD	Pack Growl	Houma-Terrebonne 475 206 St. Pius St. Houma, LA	Cover
5 Feb 1000-1500	Department Spring Staff Meeting	Houma-Terrebonne 475 206 St. Pius St. Houma, LA	White shirt / dress blue trousers or less

Blast From The Past



(14 April 1997) Installation of Officers - PDC VJ Bella (right) reinstalls Hillar Moore, Jr. (left) for his second term as 6th Commandant of the Choctaw Detachment.



The Marine Corps League Choctaw Detachment would like to cordially invite you to attend the 2021 Detachment Christmas Party. Please respond to this notification immediately. We apologize for the late notification. It has been rather busy the last few months.

DATE: Thursday, 9 December 2021

TIME: 1830-2200

PLACE: VFW Zachary Taylor Post

13214 S. Choctaw Dr.

Baton Rouge, LA 70815

COST: \$40 per person

ATTIRE: Red Jacket or Semi-Formal

CATERER: The Blue Rose Cafe

MENU: Grilled Shrimp, spinach and artichoke dip / Gourmet Assorted Sandwiches / Southern Style Shrimp over Fried Grit Cakes / Hot Crab Wontons / Brie with Figs and Pecans / Seafood Stuffed Mushrooms / Sauteed Whole Green Beans / tea, soda, coffee

To make a reservation please return this form by 2 Dec. to James Roy 11650 Sherbrook Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70815. Make checks payable to the Marine Corps League. You can also pay via Paypal to ChoctawDetachment778@gmail.com (please select friends & family).

Member Name: _____ # of Guests: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Vettes at the Beach By Rich Veillette

On October 30th, I attended the Mississippi Gulf Coast Corvette Club "Vettes at the Beach" all Corvette Show. Being a member of the Baton Rouge Corvette Club, we like to support other clubs in their efforts to raise money for charity and have a great time in the process. In addition to the judged car trophies such as "Best Of" classes, Top 25, etc. additional money is raised by purchasing sponsor plaques. These plaques are given out to cars that are the favorite of the sponsor. I sponsored a sponsor plaque in the name of the Marine Corp League Choctaw Detachment #778. I have done this in the past and look for cars with a military theme or patriotic message.



The show opened with the Mississippi State Police Honor Guard presenting colors and the singing of the national anthem. They then proceeded to honor all veterans and first responders attending and taking a head count by branch of service. I was the only Marine in attendance and did take a little friendly ribbing. Then again, I told them we only need one to handle things most of the time.



I then began to look over all the beautiful cars and came across a beautiful 2015 Crystal Red Corvette Stingray convertible decked out in a patriotic theme. On the truck lid, there were decals representing all branches of the service including the space force. The engine bay and hood art were red, white, and blue. He even had a personal license plate of CMS-ARMY. I found the owner and presented the plaque to him.

The recipient was Retired Sergeant Major Kenneth Eubanks and his wife Patsy from Arkansas. Sergeant Major Eubanks enlisted in the Army in February 1960 and served honorably for 30 years. He served many places in the US and abroad including France and several tours in Germany. He concluded his distinguished 30-year career as Community Sergeant Major in Vicenza, Italy from 1986-1990. Sgt Major Eubanks says he was honored to receive this Award from the Marine Corps League Choctaw Detachment #778.

The Massing of the Colors

On 2 November, the Choctaw Detachment participated in the Annual Massing of the Colors at Parkview Baptist School, along with the Blue Star Mothers, American Legion, Louisiana Women's Veterans Association, and members of various schools JROTC color guards. There ceremony began with each organization followed by the JROTC color guards marching in their colors. The event had an Irish band who played a bagpipe version of Amazing Grace and the Parkview Baptist Band who played patriotic music during the ceremony. Seth Verlander, a member of the Parkview Baptist band, played a solo of Taps for the entire audience. The ceremony was concluded with awards given out to the color guards who performed the best. The Detachment had five members present for the ceremony more than any other organization present.



FERGUSON®
WATERWORKS

Hurricane Ida Relief Efforts by James Roy

We all know Hurricane Ida devastated Louisiana as one of a host of many Hurricanes that have hit Louisiana in the last few years. However, the Department of Louisiana is trying to get more organized forming a Disaster Relief Team. Unfortunately, the area it devastated this time was home to the Department Disaster Relief Team Leader, Tim Neal. This didn't stop the members of the Choctaw Detachment who raised close to \$5,000 which was used to purchase supplies and food. We made a total of six trips to the Houma-Terrebonne Detachment 475 and brought supplies we purchased here in Baton Rouge. Ray Broussard cooked for the members of the Detachment who were out helping the community and they were very grateful. Several of our members helped members of our Detachment with cleanup and those members were very thankful for the assistance. Several other Detachments including the Department who raised over \$15,000 also assisted the Houma-Terrebonne Detachment with supplies and gas. Overall, we learned a lot of lessons from this Hurricane and the Department will be better equipped for future events. Houma-Terrebonne 475 also was joined by the National Staff via Zoom at their October meeting and received a National Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon for their efforts.



Walker Veteran Parade

On 30 October 2021, ten members of the Detachment travelled to Walker, LA to participate in the Veterans Parade. The day began lining up at Walker High School with all of our Detachment members decorating their vehicles in patriotic gear. Mickey Brown lead the way once the parade started with an American and Marine Corps flag mounted in the bed of his truck. Also in the procession were Dick Brandt, Steve Kovach, Todd Messina, Frank Muscarello, James Roy, Richard Ulrich, and Richard White. Earl Davis was there with his Young Marines who were part of the color guard and Gene Gilchrist road with the VFW. The event



went well and during the parade members of the detachment threw candy and beads to parade goers who waived to the participants and thanked them for their service. After the parade the VFW put on a party at a near by civic center with a band and plenty of great food. Truly and enjoyable day.



Veterans Day Mass

On 7 November 2021, PDC Dick Brandt, Richard White, and Richard Ulrich all attended the Veterans Day Mass at St. Alphonsus Church. Richard White escorted the Choctaw Detachment colors to the front of the church and all of the veterans in attendance were honored during the service. This is a special honor that happens each year and we would like to encourage more of our members to attend in the future.



Marine Corps Birthday / Veterans Day

The Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day are always busy times of the year but especially when the Louisiana War Veterans Home has its Veterans Day Ceremony on the Marine Corps Birthday. The Detachment had several places it had to be all at once but we covered it all. Some members travelled to St. Francisville to attend the General Barrow Ceremony, some went to the Louisiana War Veterans Home for the ceremony there and then all those members participated in the Port Hudson dedication ceremony performed by the Detachment each Marine Corps Birthday. Later that same day, 20 members and another 25 Marines and friends attended the Detachment Marine Corps Birthday Celebration at George's on George O'Neal.



During the ceremony at the Louisiana War Veterans Home Detachment Senior Vice Commandant Frank Muscarello performed the cake cutting ceremony. Past Detachment Commandant Col. David Couvillion was the guest speaker at the ceremony. Lastly, none of this would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Pat Kane who arranged for the guest speaker, cake, and the Marine Corps color guard to participate in the ceremony.



Marine Corps Birthday / Veterans Day continued

George's Restaurant was the venue chosen for the informal Marine Corps Birthday celebration put on by the Detachment. Our Social Activities chair Amy Skinner arranged for the MCL to have the patio area for our event so that we could celebrate our birth-



day. Al and Lydia Szur provided the cake for our event and Adjutant Jared Roach performed the ceremony. Commandant James Roy read the letter from General John A. Lejuene during the ceremony. Commandant James Roy cut the cake and handed the first piece to the old oldest Marine present, Richard White (87), who then handed the piece to Cpl Raymond Dozier (20) who was the youngest Marine present. A great time was had by all with eating and drinking taking place until it was time to lock up. All in all a successful 246th birthday. Happy Birthday Marines!!!





VERDAD

REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
& CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Membership Renewal

Annual Notice
Expires 31 August



**Renew today with your
Local Detachment Paymaster**



Life Membership

After one year in the detachment you are eligible to become a life member. Use one of the payment methods listed in the dues reminder section to submit payment if you would like to become a life member.

Age	Amount
0-35	\$500
36-50	\$400
51-64	\$300
65+	\$150

Of the 173 members in the Choctaw Detachment, 56 are Life members.

Dues Reminder \$40
Remember dues renewals take place on 1 Sept each year. Please try to have your money in before this date. Money can be submitted by:

- Check or cash at any meeting
- Check by mail to the Paymaster - Made payable to the Marine Corps League (Mickey Brown 11528 Old Hammond Hwy Apt 1904 Baton Rouge, LA 70816 225-272-9213
- Paypal - ChoctawDetachment778@gmail.com

Past Due Members -
We currently have 37 unpaid members if you haven't paid your dues since around August of this year please get your renewals in ASAP. Information on how to do is list on the left.

Upcoming Birthdays

Oct	Nov	Dec
2 Ron Bias	2 James Grayer	1 Gerald Langois
4 Bill Romano	3 Matt Cole	1 Doug Walker
5 Mike Sydara	4 Amy Skinner	2 Allen Herring
8 Kim Stevens-Addie	Pete McClenahan	3 Bryan Delchamps
15 Steven Babin	6 David Lacerte	4 Angela Alessi
Shuan Farmer	8 Jody Hasselbeck	6 Paul Parker
16 Michael Thibodeaux	9 Joe Coresentino	7 Marion Lee
18 Randall Boughton	10 Ralph Pitchford	11 Gerald Sticker
19 Ron Richard	12 Cheryl Ellis	14 Frank Bains
24 Dennis Giroir	14 Donna Campo	15 Hillar Moore, III
Chuck Reiss	18 Stanley Bihm	John Broome
25 James Carville	Amy Tipton	19 Don Doner
27 Glen Peace	Ray Dawson	Dustin Williams
29 Tim Hill	19 Dalvin Bailey	17 Kenneth Thaller
30 James Barnes	20 Diane Pownall	21 David Telhiard
Lori Palisi	Jared Roach	31 Jeffrey Meares
31 Charles Williams	24 Richard Sprinkle	
	27 Todd Messina	
	Raymond DeRossette	
	29 James Roy	

Choctaw Detachment 5th Annual Recruiting Party: by James Roy

On 26 August 2021, members from the Choctaw Detachment hosted the 5th Annual Recruiting party at Top Golf here in Baton Rouge, LA. Members set up on the 3rd floor and provided appetizers to our guests. Members also were able to play golf and took turns swinging away while other preferred to sit back and watch. We only had three potential members however, two have already joined and the third is about to. Over the venture was a success as 13 of our members were in attendance as well.



Jared Roach and Rob Smith enjoying some cold beverages watching our members swing the clubs.



Frank Muscarello swinging the clubs while David Earle enjoys some tasty food from the restaurant.

Find your tribe, they understand you; they are what keeps you grounded.

#EmbraceTheTribe
#MarineCorpsLeague



TURNER
INDUSTRIES

Recruit New Members

One of the main missions of any Detachment is recruiting and retention. You can help our Detachment grow by bringing in new members or even bringing back members who have fallen to inactive status. The Junior Vice Commandant of the Detachment is in charge of the Membership Committee. They can help you learn how to sign up and new member and what the requirements are. They will have pamphlets and applications so that you can go out and recruit members on your own, you can even join the Membership Committee to help the Detachment with recruiting plans. Every Detachment must recruit to survive.

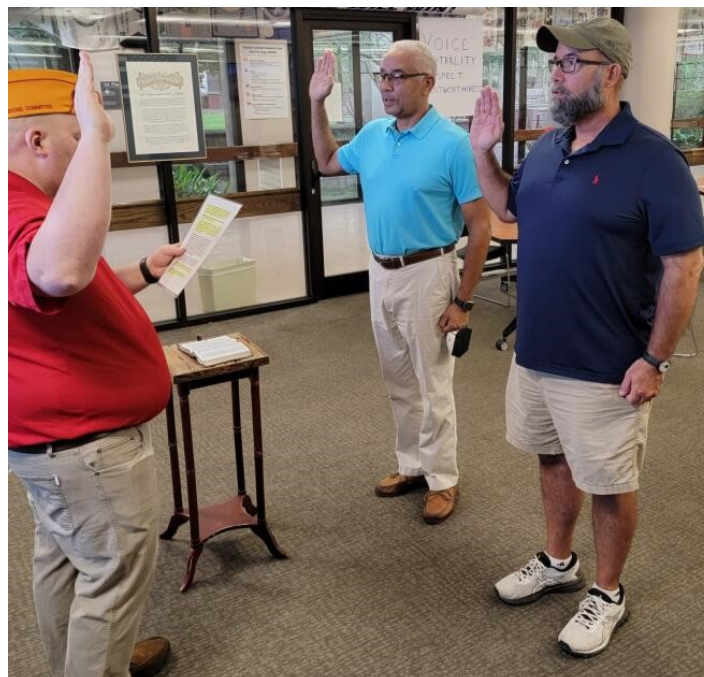
Members who in any combination recruit new members or reinstate members who have fallen to the inactive roster of 5 or more in a year become eligible to receive a Detachment Recruiting Ribbon. The member with the most will become Detachment Recruiter of the Year and be submitted for Department and National Recruiter of the Year.

Additionally, any members who achieves 5 or more will have their name will be submitted to National MCL and will receive a citation from the National Jr. Vice Commandant. If a member reaches 25-49 members in a given year they will receive a National Recruiter Medal - Bronze and a Distinguished Service Award. Members recruiting 50 or more members in a given year will receive the National Recruiter Medal - Silver and the Distinguished Service Medal. The top recruiter of the Year will receive the National Recruiter Medal - Gold, a plaque, and the Distinguished Service Medal. All National Awards will be read aloud during the awards ceremony at the National Conference.

Welcome Aboard

During the last quarter we welcomed aboard 8 new members

- Jul: (0) None
- Aug: (4) Eric Goodrich, Don Doner, Jared Heine, and Donald O'Brien.
- Sep: (4) Ronald Bias, Allen Herring, Benjamin Fielding, and Justin Ansel



Pictured: Commandant James Roy administers the oath of obligation on 7 September 2021 to Ron Bias and Allen Herring.

Membership Committee:

Chair: Todd Messina 225-955-7480 tmessina3@cox.net

The Membership Committee consist of three aspects: recruiting, retention, and welcoming new members and getting them squared away. Members of this committee will be involved in the membership of the detachment. If you would like to help the detachment grow, retain its current members, or help with the planning of the recruiting events. This is the Committee for you. Please contact the committee Chair to see how you can help.

Chaplain's Corner

Below is a list of members we would like you to think about and pray for as they recover from different illnesses or injuries.

- None at this time.

In Memoriam

Below is a list of members who have passed since our last newsletter.

- Stanley Jackson (Life Member)
- Also pray for the 6 other members of the Department who were lost since the Department Convention in June.



Funeral Honors Detail - (from left to right) - Richard Ulrich, Don Hale, Ray Broussard, and Richard White

Funeral Honors Details:

Funeral Honors Details have resumed, however the active duty Marines have not. We are not being informed of the service so we have only conducted one since these have resumed.

Leader: Dick Brandt
225-252-0923
marinebrandt@gmail.com

Events: Marine funerals (contact Dick if you would like to be added to the list of volunteers so that he may notify you when we have an upcoming funeral.

Uniform of the Day:

- Summer funerals - White Short Sleeve / Dress Blue Trousers
- Winter funerals & MCL Member funerals - Red Jacket uniform (we also provide honor guard for MCL members during visitation.





Department News

The Department Fall Staff Meeting took place on 23 October 2021, here in Baton Rouge, LA at the VFW Zachary Taylor Post 13214 S. Choctaw Dr. The staff meeting was attended by 36 members of the Department including most of the Department Staff. During the staff meeting Department Commandant, Glenn Suire, read correspondence from SE Div NVC Jerry Holt and spoke about Disaster Relief efforts. Department SVC, James Roy, gave a report on the actions he has been doing including constructing some SOPs and databases for the Department. Dept JVC, Allen Leblanc, spoke about Hurricane Ida recovery and the possible recovery of the old Bayou Detachment under a new charter.

A new proposal was made to raise Department dues from \$4 to \$10. This proposal passed by a vote of 5 Detachments to 4 and will take effect on 1 September 2022 renewal date. There was also a call for Detachments to support the upcoming Division Conference.



Department of Louisiana
Commandant
Glenn Suire

Lastly, Department Commandant, Glenn Suire, handed out awards from the National Convention. The Department of Louisiana was issued a National Meritorious Unit Citation meaning all members of the Department during the period now rate this ribbon. The National Junior Vice Commandant citations for recruiting 5 or more members during the year were issued to Matt Cole, Brett Kurtz, Eugene Phillips, Gerald Sticker, and James Roy. The National Junior Vice Commandant Citations for exceeding the previous years membership were given to Acadiana 488, Choctaw 778, Gen Walter S. McIlhenny 811, Floyd L. Baxter 875, and Lt. Dronet 1304. Lastly, James Roy received a certificate for 1st Place Battalion strength Detachment for the National Newsletter Competition. Houma-Terrebonne 475 was also recognized at the end for their National Meritorious Unit Citation they received from National Commandant Johnny Baker at their October meeting.

Military Order of the Devil Dogs - Louisiana Pack

The next Growl members of the Louisiana Pack will be participating in is at the Southeast Division Conference in March of 2022. Pack Leader PDD David Martin did advise he would also try to have a Pack Growl at the Spring Staff Meeting on 5 February 2022. Stay tuned for more details.



Southeast Division News:

Division Conference:

Date: 24-27 Mar 2021

Location: Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South
9900 Airline Hwy.
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
225-924-7021

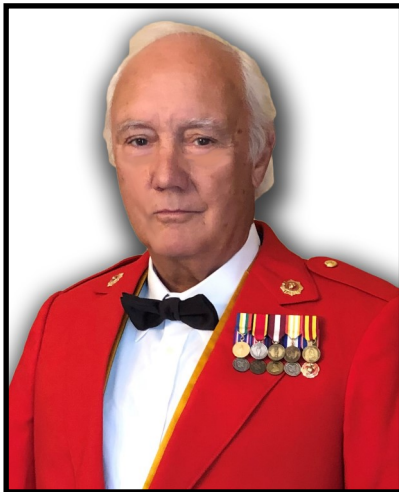


Additional Information:

We need help raising funds for this conference please contact SVC Ray Broussard contact information located below if you can help.

Division Marine of the Year:

During the Department Fall Staff Meeting, Southeast Division Assistant National Vice Commandant Ronnie Broussard, announced the William Carter Award or the Southeast Division Marine of the Year Award would be awarded for 2019, 2020, and 2021, because there was no conferences during the first two years due to COVID. Detachments can submit the same person for each of the years but a recipient will only be chosen once. Choctaw did select candidates for both of these years but the Marine of the Year Society will meet again and decide on all three of these submissions to be made in 2022.



SE Div. National Vice Commandant
Jerry Holt



SE Div. Assistant National Vice Commandant
Ronnie Broussard



*Best Wishes to the Members of the
Marine Corps League attending the
Southeast Division Conference
we wish you all well and
hope you have a geat time in Louisiana*

Mickey and Melanie Loomis

Marine Corps League National News:



2022 Mid Winter Conference

DATE: 24 Feb 2022 to 26 Feb 2022

PLACE: Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510

Room Rate: \$129 + tax (14%) + \$3 resort charge

Additional: breakfast included

Reservations can be made 1-800-325-3535 or 757-622-6664 or clicking the link below:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1619455105461&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

2022 National Convention

DATE: 15 Aug 2022 to 19 Aug 2022

PLACE: Hilton Dayton Beach Oceanfront Resort 100 N. Atlantic Ave. Dayton Beach, FL 32118

1-800-774-1500 mention code MCL22

https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/dabdhhf-mcl22-e8ad126b-627e-47fa-a5cf-964b7ea404ef/?WT.mc_id=POG

Facebook Event: Search MCL 2022 National Convention

Additional Notes: includes breakfast / Convention rate is good for 4 days before and after. The hotel is 850 rooms. You can begin booking your rooms now. Please let our Commandant know if you are planning to attend.

Room Rate: \$127 + taxes and there is a \$20 parking fee which they are trying to negotiate now.

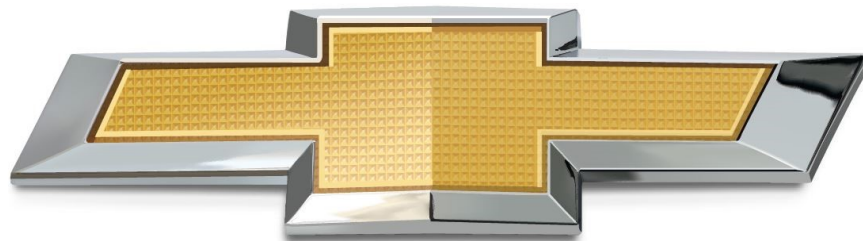
2023 National Convention

DATE: 14 Aug 2023 to 18th Aug 2023

PLACE: Omni in Oklahoma City, OK

Room Rate: \$165 (taxes included) or \$175 with parking (taxes included).

Details: TBD



CHEVROLET



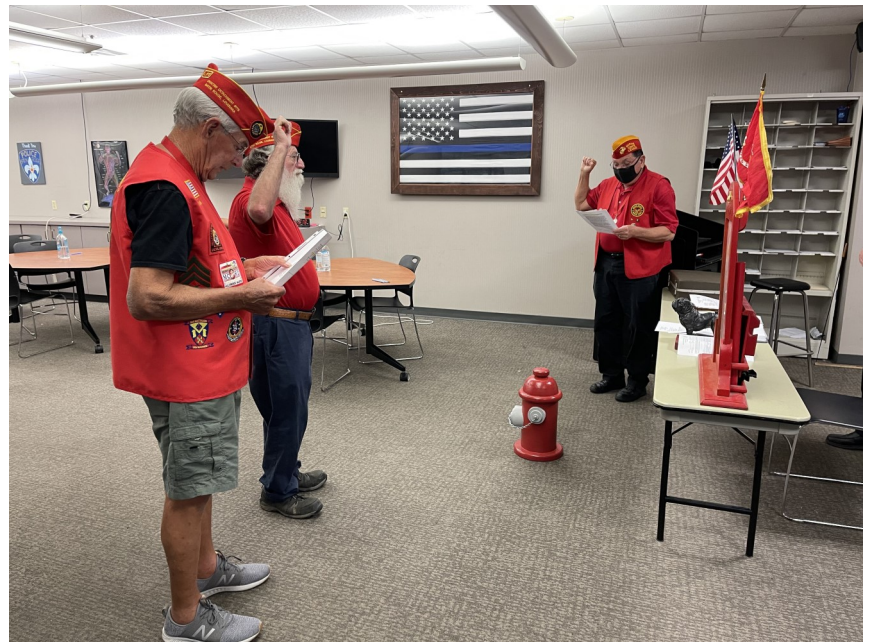
Military Order of the Devil Dogs Choctaw Hounds Pound 261

Pound Keeper: DD Richard Ulrich 225-235-8821	Police Dog: DD Pat Kane 225-344-2048
Senior Vice Pound Keeper: PDD Dick Brandt 225-252-0923	Mad Dog: PDD Dick Brandt 225-252-0923
Junior Vice Pound Keeper: DD Richard White 225-261-5452	Watch Dog: DD James Roy 225-572-4994
Dog Robber: DD Frank Muscarello 225-278-3625	Barking Dog: PUP Earl Davis 225-273-1700
Smart Dog: PUP Todd Messina 225-955-7480	Junior Past Pound Keeper: PDD Dick Brandt 225-252-0923
Dog Trainer: DD Richard White 225-261-5452	WOOF WOOF

The Military Order of the Devil Dogs is the fun and honor society of the Marine Corps League. Being asked to be a member of the Order means you are seen as one of the members who puts forth the extra effort to make the detachment great. The Order focuses on two areas: helping children and assistance to our fellow real life dogs.

Next Growl:
DATE: 1 January 2022
TIME: 1800
LOCATION: BRPD Training Academy
9000 Airline Hwy.

Remember to bring dog food and your bones!!! Great job last growl. The growl had 482 Pounds of dog food from the 10 members in attendance which was donated to the Dog Adoption House of Baton Rouge and the shelter in Denham Springs. Also the Pound Keepers games were a big success raising money for the treasury. We also elected new officer although many remained the same we do have 2 new pups in staff now. Also welcome to PUP Bill Romanolf you are a current dog and know of a deserving mongrel see Pound Keeper Richard Ulrich.



Robert H. Barrow Fireteam (Saint Francisville, LA)

Robert H. Barrow Fireteam News

Fireteam Leader:
None at this time

The fireteam is sidelined right now as no member of the Fireteam is willing to lead and the old leader hasn't been heard from in over a year.



LCpl. Justin D. McLeese Fireteam News:

On 13 Nov 2021, Members of the LCpl Justin D. McLeese Fireteam conducted their first major project, hosting their first Marine Corps Ball. Southeast Division ANVC Ronnie Broussard, Department Commandant Glenn Suire, Department SVC James Roy, PDC Mary Draughn, PDC Dick Brandt, and several other members of other Detachments were all in attendance. The birthday ball marks the Anniversary of the death of LCpl Justin D. McLeese and his family were in attendance as honored guests. Member, Colonel Pete McClanahan was the Guest speaker. The event was held at the Mandeville Lion's Club and you could tell from the minute you walked in it was going to be a great night. The room was well decorated and all the seats were filled with 250 people in attendance.



Commandant Matt Cole began the ceremony and did a fantastic job. The Ponchatoula High School JROTC performed both the sword detail and color guard. Col. McClanahan and the parents of Justin McLeese were escorted to the front. This was followed by four members of the League escorting the Marine Corps Birthday Cake to the front. As it is tradition Colonel McClanahan cut the cake and handed the first piece to the guest of honor the McLeese family. He then presented the next piece to the oldest Marine present, retired Master Gunnery Sergeant Rudy Sutis (91) and the next to MGySgt Sutis who then handed it the youngest Marine present Corporal Michael Draughn (30). PDC Dick Brandt read the message from General John A. LeJuene. During the ceremony, Matt Cole recognized the McLeese Family, all the Gold Star families present, and all the great sponsors they had for the Ball. The Guest Speaker, Col. McClanahan

gave a great and memorable speech and he was followed by Tara McLeese, Justin's sister, to talk about her brother.



LCpl. Justin D. McLeese Fireteam News (continued):

Next, Southeast Division ANVC Ronnie Broussard was called to the front and made an announcement that LCpl. Justin D. McLeese Fireteam will now be known as LCpl. Justin D. McLeese Detachment 1487 and their charter will be today, 13 November 2021 the 17th Anniversary of the day Justin was killed in action. All in attendance applauded but there was more.



Department Junior Vice Commandant James Roy also presented Matt Cole with a Detachment Gavel engraved with their Detachment and number. The surprises were not done there though as Matt had a surprise for James as well a one of a kind Marine Corps League stool, it was outstanding. The ceremony concluded and food was served along with music by Harvey Jesus and Fire. The party continued for several hours and even featured Matt getting up there and singing a few songs. Outstanding job by this newly formed Detachment. Good things are coming their way. We have officially transferred 20 of their members to the new Detachment and will now have to get their other 21 members transferred over in the new few weeks. Good Luck Marines!!!



Information Update

Requesting that all members of the Detachment please send in an email with your current:

- Phone number
- Address
- Email

ChoctawDetachment778@gmail.com

Or call 225-572-4994 (please only if you don't have email)

Committees Chairs:

Audit:	Richard Ulrich
Budget & Finance:	James Roy
Bylaws:	Ray Gendron
Fundraising:	Todd Messina
Marine of the Year:	Ray Broussard
Membership:	Todd Messina
Nominating:	Dick Brandt
Programs:	James Roy
2022 SE Div. Conf.:	James Roy
Social Activities:	Amy Skinner

Programs Leaders:

BR Soldier Outreach:	James Roy
Disaster Relief:	Dick Brandt
Eagle Scouts:	Frank Muscarello
Funeral Details:	Dick Brandt
IR Silkies Hike:	vacant
Parade Details:	Rich Vielle
Rose Day:	Richard Ulrich
Scholarships:	Frank Muscarello
St. Vincent De Paul:	Frank Muscarello
Toys 4 Tots:	Dick Brandt
VA Clinic:	Vacant
Veterans Homes:	Al Szur
	Pat Kane
Young Marines:	Earl Davis



Internet & Social Media

Website:

<http://www.mclbatonrouge.org/>

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MCL778/>

Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MCL778/>

Baton Rouge Area Marines

Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BRAreaMarines/>

Ad space:

If you know anyone that would be interested in purchasing ad space in our newsletter please reach out to them. Prices are posted below and they must submit art work to ChoctawDetachment778@gmail.com

Full Page	\$100 / year
1/2 Page	\$50 / year
1/4 Page	\$25 / year

Semper fidelis

Marine Corps League Choctaw Detachment Newsletter



Oct-Dec 2021



Choctaw Detachment 778
PO Box 41555
Baton Rouge, LA 70835