



# Marine Corps League

## Smoky Mountain Detachment #973

### Franklin, North Carolina

#### NEWSLETTER

21 APRIL 2008

**Commandant**  
Gregory Hunt

**Sr. Vice**  
H. "Skip" Howells

**Jr. Vice**  
Rodney Chastain

**Judge Advocate**  
James Basey

**Adjutant**  
Darold Long

**Sgt At Arms**  
Lee Whittaker

**Paymaster**  
Warren Potter

**Chaplain**  
Norman Roberts

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As your commandant I want to thank you for your hard work in 2007, which was considered a successful year for the Detachment. As we move further into 2008, we have a lot ahead of us and positive things are coming our way. I will keep you updated monthly in between meetings via this newsletter, so that you are aware of things going on in the Marine Corps League National, State and local offices. I challenge each of you to step up and volunteer or help when the time comes. We will have at least 2 raffles this year and hopefully a third will be added to the lineup. Also, Toys for Tots season will be here before we know it. I appreciate the dedication those who stepped up to be nominated and elected to office and those who accepted the appointment offers.

Sr. Vice Commandant Skip Howells and I attended the Quarterly meeting for DoNC held in Morganton, NC at the Table Rock Detachment. There was a good turnout with representatives present for about half of the 51 Detachments in the State. I had the pleasure of receiving a 100% Membership Citation and streamer on behalf of the Detachment. Congratulations guys, let's keep those numbers on the rise. Here's some of the information gathered at the meeting:

- NC has 51 Detachments, this is #1 in the Country.
- There is a new Detachment being chartered in Sparta, NC on 10 May 2008 @ 1800. If you would like to attend let me know.
- As of 30 March 2008 the DoNC bank account stood at \$18,239.29
- A motion was put forth and passed to donate \$100 to any newly chartered Detachment to assist in getting started.
- There is work being done in preparation of developing a Professional Development Program for Marine Corps League members. This would be a curriculum on how to be a good Marine Corps League member.
- NC had an increase in membership of 2.5% for 2007 from 2006 and was the largest of any Department.
- It was announced that if a Detachment member wants to become a Life Member, but due to financial reasons is unable to pay the full amount, their Detachment is authorized to pay the Life Membership dues for the member and the member repay the Detachment in whatever payment plan the Detachment sets up.
- Remember the fiscal year is 1 July to 30 June of each year.
- The DoNC website will be transitioning from a standard website to an Information Center with some of the following benefits:
  1. All paperwork can be done online
  2. Historical records will be available, allowing each Detachment Historian to maintain records accessible to all MCL members.
  3. Each Detachment will have access to their page under the DoNC main site, that they can update and maintain regularly themselves. It will be a full service web page for Detachments, allowing paid sites to be closed, saving Detachment money.
- If anyone wants to recommend a MOY candidate, the recommendation has to be in by noon 7 June 2008.

***We will have an Executive Staff (elected and appointed officers) meeting 28 April 2008 at 1830 in the American Legion Auxiliary building. If you are unable to attend, let me know.***

#### **Dates to remember:**

26 May 2008—Memorial Day (more information to come)

31 May 2008—Detachment Family Picnic at Darold Long's RV Park (covered dish)

If anyone wants to attend the State Convention 5-7 June 2008, let me know ASAP. It's being held in Jacksonville, NC.

Everyone look at the changes to the National By Laws, there are some uniform changes in there that you need to be aware of. Also take a look at the Marine Corps Uniform Regulations, there has been some changes to the criteria for being authorized to wear uniforms after leaving the Corps.

See you all Tuesday 6 May 2008 at 1830, oh by the way the SW District Vice Commandant and the Department Jr. Vice Commandant will be in attendance at this meeting. It would be great if all members were present to show them how dedicated and diligent we are.