

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our next monthly meeting is set for: **17 January 2024**



With the beginning of a New Year, please embrace those you love and let them know your love. For we know not our allotted time in this life, nor do we know their allotted time in this life.

LIVE LIFE TO ITS FULLEST.

Dedicated to my beloved older brother Mark Andrew Grinde.

At the November 2023 meeting, the detachment voted to provide firewood to the Bowker family. On December 9th, Wes Sessums delivered two cords of firewood and kindling to the Bowker home. Wes was assisted by his son Les Sessums, and Les's wife Mia. Wes is the brother-in-law of detachment commandant Dave Huber.

On 9 December, the following email was received from Robert Bowker.

On Dec 9, 2023, at 17:16, Robert Bowker wrote:

To all my dear friends at the 917, we just received your extremely well-placed and timely gift to our family. We've been feeling so defeated and inundated with an overwhelming amount of work and problems with this home. Last night we were discussing the fact that we only have about 2 weeks' worth of wood left, which consisted of fence posts, cut up doors that were kicked in from the house and random pieces of trim. Although I got the furnace working it's barely able to keep the house above freezing and definitely not comfortable. I have revamped a wood stove that's doing the job except we were nearly out of wood. We didn't have any real firewood. This is a blessing that I'm going to be deeply in your debt for. I try not to ask for help from anyone, but I can't tell you how much this means to us. That is some beautiful looking fur and it'll definitely carry us all the way to spring. Talk about one of the most amazing Christmas presents we've ever had! Wes took some pictures and promised he'd send some over to you. The whole family sends their Christmas blessings and our deepest thank you for your kindness! I don't know what else to say but thank you thank you thank you! From Robert, Tawnee, Hannah, Bobby, and Nathan – Bowker



The Bowker Family (photo left), Robert Bowker talking to Mia Sessums (photo right).



Part of the delivery being dumped/



The Red and blue pickups were the wood and delivery personnel. The blue pickup used a “dump trailer” to unload.

NEWEST LIFE MEMBER

Emerald Empire Detachment #917



On 20 December 2023, Emerald Empire Detachment #917 Commandant Dave Huber presented the detachment's newest life member Robert (Bobby) Graves with his Brass Life Membership card, and Life Membership Pin.



Congratulations Bobby

CORPSMAN



Norman Hart – Norman attended the 3 December 2023 breakfast service. At this event, Norman reported that he had completed the course of radiation treatments for his cancer. As of 3 December, Norman is now cancer free. This is outstandingly great news.



Jim Pilling – I received this update from Jim, “

Sunday, December 3, I was taking my trash can to the curb and my post-polio syndrome and leg neuropathy gave out and down I went to the wet pavement. I said a few unkind words. Called 911 and very efficient fire and EMS people arrived. I lacerated three fingers pretty bad on the fall, but no broken bones. Transported to RiverBend and spent 10 hours in the ER. Place was packed with patients after University Hospital shut down. 14 stitches in my 3 fingers and sent home. Thank God my two daughters were there to support me. Saw hand doctor at Slocum, Dr. Heather Campion and triage nurse Wendy Johnson past two weeks. Got stitches out today. Fingers and hands sore.

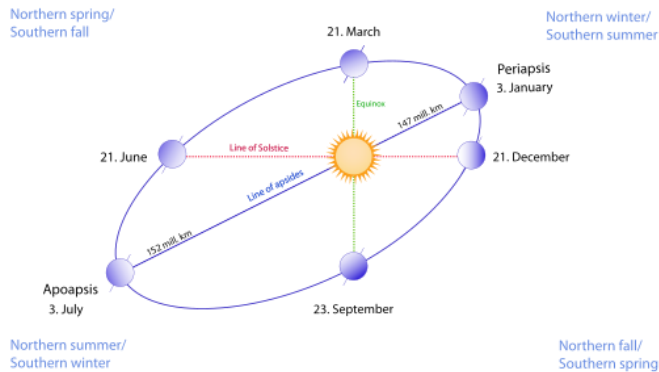
Last Thursday, had a cystoscopy with my Urologist. He said I was cancer free. Today, I received a call from him and in consultation with another Urologist, they reviewed the film and he says I still have bladder cancer. He will get back to me next week with new information. Obviously, I am unhappy and disappointed. Taking one day at a time and trying to stay positive. Everyone stay safe and healthy. SEMPER FI!!” Jim is pending a face-to-face with his doctor to figure out what is going on, and what needs to occur.



Rudy & Angie Grein – Rudy & Angie are going through their second go around with Covid.



From the Chaplain's Corner



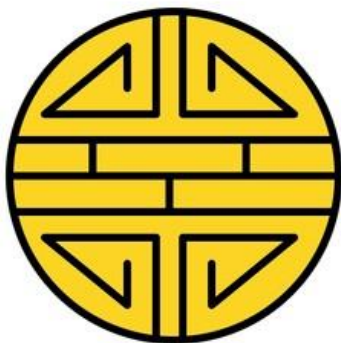
2024, the beginning of another trip around the sun!

What do you hope to see happen in and around you this year?

My wish is for health and happiness to abound, for myself and others;

for wars to end and peace to reign.

My prayer is for each of us to experience abundant life, regardless of our circumstances, in our bodies and our hearts, and to share with our friends & family the peace and contentment that can only come from knowing God.



Here's to abundant life!

*Joy Cavin, Chaplain
Emerald Empire Marine
Corps League*





JANUARY 2024

BIRTHDAYS

7 January – Debbie Barker

18 January – Thad Lukasik

21 January – Patrick Burke

23 January – James (Jim) Pilling

28 January – Matthew Bowerman

Please take a moment to remember Debbie, Thad, Patrick, Jim, and Matthew on the anniversary of the days they were born.



Fund-Raising Breakfast Service for Sunday, **3 December 2023**

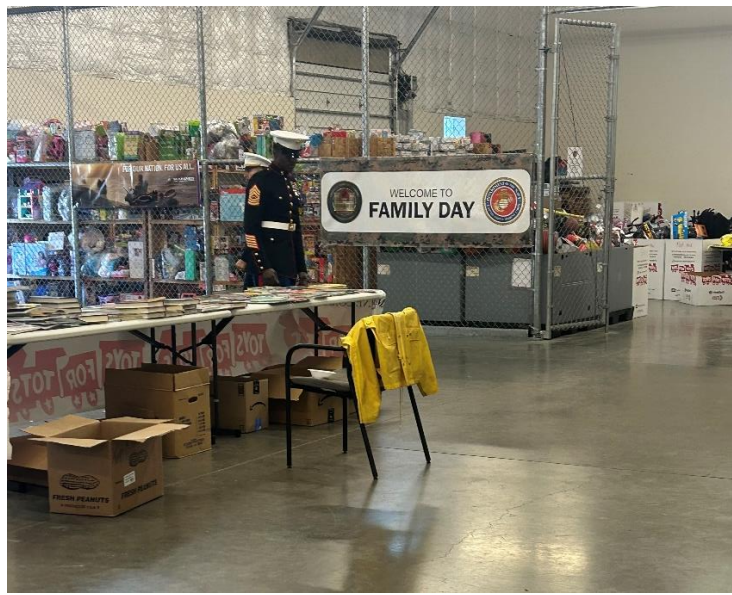
The breakfast service for 3 December 2023 served 32 paid meals. This brought in \$264.00. We also received \$45.00 in tips, for a total of **\$309.00.**

Norman Hart attended and helped with just about a little of everything. It was good to see Norman. Make sure you see the good news he provided in the Corpsman section.



2023 was a new experience in how Toys-for-Tots was conducted.





Ray Miller compiling the statistical information from the distribution under the watchful eye of Dave Huber.

Distribution sites went from 4 up to 11. Total children served was 3,148 which is an increase of 348 from 2022. Total number of families served was 1,451 which is an increase of 242 from 2022.

There were other locations that did not report their information, so these numbers cover only those distributions where information was gathered and shared.

Marine Corps League “Mission Statement”

Detachment Commandant Dave Huber has tasked the Senior Vice-Commandant with reading the Marine Corps League Mission Statement at each meeting so that we all are reminded on a regular basis what the “mission” of the Marine Corps League is, and what we should be striving for.

Marine Corps League Mission Statement (As shown on our detachment website)

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen and former Marines and FMF Corpsmen and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

The Mission of the Marine Corps League (as shown on national website)

The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and FMF Chaplains who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.



LEAGUE PATCHES ARE IN

The detachment bought Marine Corps League patches (regular and associate). These are available for purchase for those persons wishing to buy new league shirts, or replace old league shirts.



Regular Patches are \$4.00 each
Associate Patches are \$7.00 each

Emerald Empire Detachment #917 Advertising Pens



The pens are available to detachment members for \$1.00 each pen. This covers the cost of the pens and earns the detachment approximately 23 cents per pen.

The pens are for handing out to Marines, Corpsmen, Chaplains, and persons we want to try and recruit for membership.

HATS & VISORS



Eagle, globe, anchor & “Semper Fi” White Sun visors and Black Marine Corps League hats - **\$1.00 each – What a Deal.** Hats/Visors are now available at the monthly meetings.



DETACHMENT COINS / CHIPS

Available for \$1.50 each which off-sets the cost of buying them and earns the detachment 45 cents on each one purchased. They are available for purchase in-person during the monthly meetings and from the detachment paymaster.



You can carry one on you as your representation of the detachment when “challenged.” You can also give them out to Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains, and persons who may want to be associate members as recruiting tools; or as gifts to family, friends, and acquaintances who are veterans themselves.

EMERALD EMPIRE DETACHMENT # 917
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Moose Lodge 1726
2011 Laura Street
Springfield, OR 97477-2100
Phone: (541) 746-3321
3rd Wednesday of the Month

Dinner @ 1800 hours

Meeting Starts @ 1900 hours

Mailing address:

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PO Box 70455 Springfield, OR 97475

Detachment E-mail Address:

mcldet917@gmail.com

Detachment Facebook Page: [MCL Detachment 917](#)

Detachment Web Site: www.mcl917.org

Department Web Site: <http://www.mcl-oregon.org>

National Website: www.mclnational.org

2024 Meeting Dates

MARK YOUR 2024 CALENDARS NOW

17 January 2024 (Spaghetti with meatballs, salad, and garlic bread)

21 February 2024 (Bar Menu Items)

20 March 2024 (Corned beef and cabbage, salad, and potatoes)

17 April 2024 (Ham and scalloped potatoes, Peas, Dinner Roll, and salad)

15 May 2024

19 June 2024

17 July 2024

21 August 2024

18 September 2024

16 October 2024

20 November 2024

18 December 2024

2024 Fund Raising Breakfast

Dates

MARK YOUR 2024 CALENDARS NOW

21 January 2024

18 February 2024

17 March 2024 (St. Patrick's Day)

21 April 2024

19 May 2024

16 June 2024 (Father's Day)

21 July 2024

18 August 2024

15 September 2024

20 October 2024

17 November 2024

15 December 2024