



MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our next monthly meeting is: **15 May 2024**

Memorial Day

Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day) is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

From 1868 to 1970, it was observed on May 30. Since 1971, it is observed on the last Monday of May.

Many people visit cemeteries and memorials on Memorial Day to honor and mourn those who died while serving in the U.S. military. Many volunteers place American flags on the graves of military personnel in national cemeteries. Memorial Day is also considered the unofficial beginning of summer.

The first national observance of Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868. Then known as Decoration Day, the holiday was proclaimed by Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic to honor the Union soldiers who had died in the Civil War. This national observance was preceded by many local ones between the end of the Civil War and Logan's declaration. Many cities and people have claimed to be the first to observe it. However, the National Cemetery Administration, a division of the Department of Veterans Affairs, credits Mary Ann Williams with originating the "idea of strewing the graves of Civil War soldiers—Union and Confederate" with flowers.

Official recognition as a holiday spread among the states, beginning with New York in 1873. By 1890, every Union state had adopted it. The world wars turned it into a day of remembrance for all members of the U.S. military who fought and died in service. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as "Memorial Day" and changed its observance to the last Monday in May.

Two other days celebrate those who have served or are serving in the U.S. military: Armed Forces Day (third Saturday in May), an unofficial U.S. holiday for honoring those currently serving in the armed forces, and Veterans Day (on November 11), which honors all those who have served in the United States Armed Forces.





Emerald Empire Detachment #917
Officers for 2024 - 2025

Commandant – Joseph Lamm
Senior Vice-Commandant – Stephen Price
Junior Vice-Commandant – Paul Grinde
Judge Advocate – Thad Lukasik

The vote was by Acclamation of all those present.

Junior Past-Commandant – Dave Huber

15 May 2024 Meeting – **Installation of Officers**



CORPSMAN

Dave Huber – Dave Huber’s mother Lavada Sessums’ gall stone surgery went well and she sends her “Thank You for the Get-Well Card” to the detachment. Dave said “everything is good.”



Thad Lukasik – Thad called Dave Huber before the April meeting and said he was not able to attend, but that he will be at the May meeting. Thad & Nancy attended the breakfast on 28 April 2024.

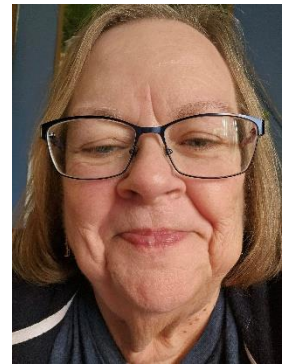
Rudy Grein – Rudy continues his recovery / physical therapy. He is currently trying a place called Simply Strong and has a personal trainer.



Eddie & Jeanne Mosteller – They have assistance coming in to help them with their day-to-day activities. Eddie still has his 3-wheel motorcycle (trike) and his truck.



From the Chaplain's Corner



May 2024

Bring on the May flowers, promised from April showers!



I am looking forward to the glory of spring, where the warmer days bring a bountiful supply of flowering trees & shrubs in hues that span the rainbow! It's been a bit of a challenge to get through some of the dreary, rain-filled days in April.

What is your favorite activity in May? It's a good time to go to the coast – if it's not a warm day, you can always watch the waves crashing on the jetties, or eat some really good fresh seafood. Got a friend who doesn't get out much? Take them along with you.



As the days get longer and the sun shines more, get outside and soak up some Vitamin D as you enjoy the beautiful area God created for us to enjoy. If you or someone you know needs help or prayer, please don't hesitate to let me know. Take good care of yourselves.

Joy Cavin
Chaplain
Emerald Empire Detachment #917
Marine Corps League



Fund-Raising Breakfast Service for Sunday,



At the 28 April 2024 fund-raising breakfast, we served 24 people. 3 of those were “orientation” attendees for the Moose Lodge so they ate for free. This meant we had 21 paid customers which brought in \$210.00. We also received \$30.00 in tips, for a total of \$240.00.

Dave’s son David James (DJ) Huber ran the grill. This was a great help since Stephen Price was down and out with a head cold. Get Well Stephen.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Senior Vice-Commandant Debbie Barker, Mike Barker and Craig Myers attended the 6 April 2024, Purple Heart Medal presentation to Corporal Jason Dougherty, USMC, for wounds received in Ramadi, Iraq on 2 Jan 2005. This is a 19 year-old mistake that has finally been corrected. The presentation was made in Skinner Butte Park, Eugene, Oregon.



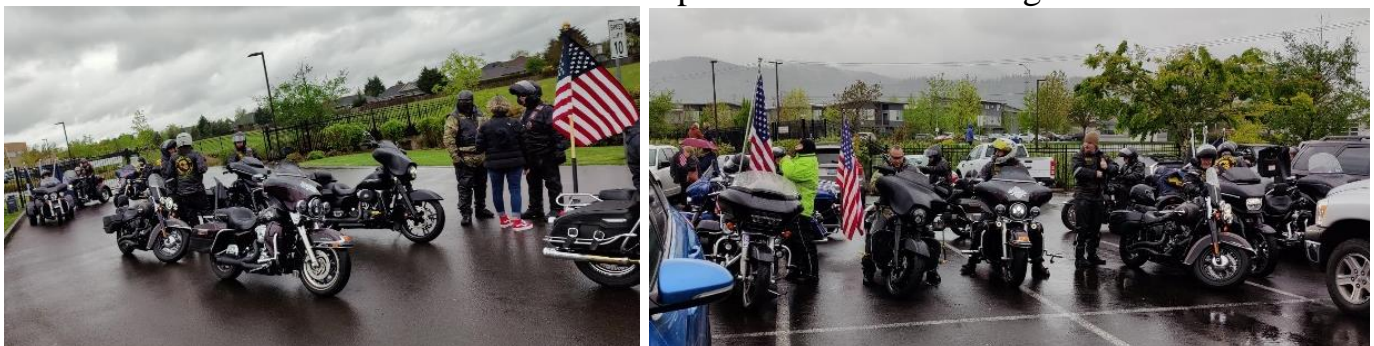
b) Detachment members Ruth Holland & Robert Graves went on the Honor Flight that flew out 25 April 2024.



Robert Graves and Ruth Holland checked in for their Honor Flight. The meeting and checkin location was the Veterans Administration Clinic on Chad Drive. This also provided the veterans with a safe and secure location to leave their vehicles.



Waiting to begin loading the buses. The buses would make a stop in Albany, Oregon to pick up more Veterans. There are about 60 Veterans going on this flight. They then caravanned to the Portland International Airport for their charter flight.



The Combat Vet's Association provided a motorcycle escort.



On their way.



Preparing for the WELCOME HOME, 29 April 2024.



Home SAFE & SOUND: Robert (Bobby) Graves,



and Ruth Holland have arrived back home from their HONOR FLIGHT. They arrived back at the VA Clinic, Eugene before 1 p.m. on 29 April 2024.

(Photos courtesy of Lois & Stephen Price)

- c) Robert Bowker passed along the following information and photo of another task completed.

Please let everyone know we miss you all and still chugging along bringing the place back up to speed. We just finished removing 76,000 pounds of used tires, after removing 64,000 lbs. of garbage. Another milestone complete.

Blessings to all of you from the Bowkers



- d) Joseph Lamm in his business connections met Michael Pace a Vietnam Veteran Navy FMF Corpsman and invited him to come to the April meeting. Michael was there but received an unexpected phone call and had to leave before the meeting got started. Michael plans on being back for the May meeting. Will get all the details about Michael at the May meeting.

- e) Detachment Webmaster Debbie Barker has upgraded the PDF viewer on the detachment webpage to PDF Viewer Pro. This has fixed the problem of the newsletter having “FREE VERSION” across all the pages. The small cost to add this feature ensures we have an easier to read/view newsletter for those visiting the website.

f) **YOUNG MARINES:** The Young Marines helped to serve approximately 104 meals to the National Guard. This is an annual event hosted by the Moose Lodge. The Young Marines need Registered Adults, and more kids to participate in the program.



**The YOUNG
MARINES**

Jim Search – a Sweet Home resident, longtime supporter of the Young Marines, Albany, Oregon, and Caretaker of the Camp, has passed away from a tragic accident at his home.

g) Stephen Price is planning a maintenance (roofing project) at the Young Marines camp. When we have all the details, they will be passed along for those able to assist with the work project. STANDBY TO STANDBY.

h) DID YOU KNOW? Jon Bon Jovi's (John Francis Bongiovi, Jr.) parents were both Marines. His father John Francis Bongiovi, Sr. was a barber and a former Marine. His mother Carol (Sharkey) was also a former Marine and later florist. (This Marine moment brought to you by Detachment LIFE Member Rudy Grein.)

i) Detachment LIFE Member Bobby Graves was presented with a USMC Red Nylon Jacket at the April meeting. This was the detachment's small way of making it up to Bobby that his LIFE Membership took so long to get processed.



As you can see in the Honor Flight photos Bobby was wearing it as he checked in for the 25 April 2024 HONOR FLIGHT.

j) The Life Membership Audit was conducted earlier this year. The result of the audit showed that we had 19 Life Members Eligible (Life Memberships must be in place for 2 years before eligible for funds from national) and we received \$79.42 from National.

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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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

15 May 2024 (Hamburger, Potato Salad, Fresh Fruit)

19 June 2024 (Fried Chicken, Coleslaw, Baked Beans)

17 July 2024 (Hot Dog, Fresh Corn on the Cob, Apple Pie)

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

26 May 2024 ~~19 May 2024~~ **DATE CHANGED**

16 June 2024 (Father's Day)

21 July 2024

18 August 2024

15 September 2024

20 October 2024

17 November 2024

15 December 2024