



The Gipper

Marine Corps League
President Ronald Reagan Detachment 597
Semper Fidelis

Harry Hodges, Commandant
mcl597commandant@gmail.com
Richard Farra, Managing Editor
richfarra@gmail.com



FEBRUARY 2020



COMMANDANT

Harry Hodges

Hodges1951@gmail.com

805-515-1401, Mobile



Message From Your Commandant

Marines, Corpsmen and Associate members,

On February 4, I had the honor of doing a Color Guard ceremony for four of our Medal of Honor recipients. They really enjoyed the colors ceremony and said we did a great job. Those in the Color Guard detail, in addition to myself, were John Miller, Fausto Galvan, Dave Opfer, Ben Pfister, and Larry Fischer. It was such an honor to be in the presence of these heroes who don't consider themselves as heroes, the way they put it is that they were just doing a job. I presented each one of the Medal of Honor recipients with one of our challenge coins which they appreciated very much.

I would like to thank everyone who attended and participated in the voting process during our last general meeting. With you we were able to elect our 2020-2021 Board of Trustees. Don't forget that next month we will be installing the elected officers with Past Commandant Ruy "Top" Peña doing the honors.

Semper Fi
Harry Hodges
Commandant



Gen. Brady

Harry Hodges



JR. VICE COMMANDANT

John Miller

kathiemill@aol.com
(805) 581-5462



Marines, FMF Corpsmen and Associates,

February is a good month for all Marines everywhere, especially those here in Simi Valley and the surrounding area. First, there was the great moment on February 4th when the VFW Post 10049 presented a luncheon for four US Army Viet Nam Veterans who received our Nation's highest award for valor - The Medal of Honor. We were honored to have these MOH recipients, Command Sergeant Major Bennie Adkins, Command Sergeant Major Robert Patterson, Captain Paul Bucha, and Major General Patrick Brady, address us during the event. These men gave a very welcomed view of what the Medal of Honor meant to them and how they had earned their medals. It was an extreme honor to be in their presence and listen to their stories of heroism and patriotism.



CSM Patterson

Gen. Brady

Cpt. Bucha

CSM Adkins



Jr Vice Miller & CSM Patterson



Adjutant Coley & CSM Patterson

During our February general meeting, held at The Elks Club, the nominees for the 2020 Detachment officers were voted on by the Detachment. The newly elected officers are: Commandant - Harry Hodges, Senior Vice Commandant - Ben Pfister, Junior Vice Commandant - John Miller, and Judge Advocate - Martin Spann. The swearing in ceremony for the newly elected board will be held during the March general meeting.

Congratulations to my fellows Officers and I promise to do my best to keep our Detachment the finest in The Marine Corps League.

As February 19th draws near, all Marines will remember with pride that 75 years ago, Marines landed on Iwo Jima and 4 days later, on February 23, 1945, Marines placed the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi. That one photograph depicts the truest form of love of country and valor than any other photograph of World War II. We are Marines and descendants of proud warriors.



-Marines from Echo Company 28th Marines Mt. Suribachi-

Semper Fidelis,

John E Miller

Junior Vice Commandant & Historian

President Ronald Reagan Detachment 597 of the Marine Corps League



HISTORIAN

John Miller

kathiemill@aol.com
(805) 581-5462



Marine Corps History

- 2-01-1967 3rd MarDiv begins Operation Prairie II in Viet Nam. Operation ended with 93 Marines killed.
- 2-02-1944 4th MarDiv gain control of Kwajalein Atoll
- 2-06-1966 L/Cpl Jerry Estes killed in action in Viet Nam
- 2-06-1968 1Bn 1st Marines and 2nd Bn 5th Marines recapture Hue City hospital and S. Vietnamese Provincial headquarters,
- 2-11-1922 Marine Brigadier General John Russell appointed High Commissioner of Haiti.
- 2-15-1898 United States Battleship Maine explodes in Havana Harbor killing 28 US Marines and 232 US Naval personnel. 3 months later US declares war on Spain.
- 2-23-1945 US Marines from Echo 2/28 raise US Flag atop Mt. Suribachi on Island of Iwo Jima. This battle cost 6,800 American lives and 17,000 enemy combat deaths.



Don "Mac" McGregor Detachment 597 Iwo Jima Vet

- 2-24-1991 Ground assault begins against Iraq with 1st and 2nd MarDiv driving enemy back and 100 hours later a cease fire declared.
- 2-28-1991 Operation Desert Storm comes to an end with 24 US Marines killed in action.
- 2-29-1940 Hattie McDonald become first African-American to win the Oscar
- 2-06-1952 King George VI dies and Queen Elizabeth II gains the British throne.

IT'S OUR HISTORY REMEMBER IT HONOR IT



MEDAL OF HONOR VETERANS LUNCH

Please join us for pizza and a peer-to-peer discussion with Medal of Honor Recipients on surviving and thriving in a post-military civilian world.



Veterans Lunch and Discussion

When: Tuesday, Feb 4, 2020, 11:30 a.m.

Where: VFW Department of CA District 7
VFW Post 10049
Museum of Military History
1555 Simi Town Center Way
Simi Valley, CA #220

Details: Only for Veterans and Active Duty
Limited number of tickets available

Contact: Tony Boucher tonytuna50@aol.com

MEDAL OF HONOR PARTICIPANTS

Bennie G. Adkins

Patrick H. Brady

Paul W. Bucha

Robert M. Patterson



The Medal of Honor

The Medal of Honor is the highest award that the United States bestows upon members of our Armed Forces for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity, above and beyond the call of duty". The Congressional Medal of Honor Society, which consists exclusively of the 71 living Recipients of the Medal of Honor, is dedicated to educating and inspiring Americans about the values embodied in the Medal of Honor: courage, sacrifice, commitment, integrity, citizenship, and patriotism.





MEDAL OF HONOR VETERANS LUNCHEON

Recipients' Citations

1. BENNIE ADKINS

Rank at time of MOH service: Sergeant First Class

Organization: U.S. Army

Company: Detachment A-102

Division: 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces

Born: 1 February 1934, Waurika, Okla.

Date of Issue: 09/15/2014

Place / Date: Camp A Shau, Republic of Vietnam, March 9-12, 1966



Citation

Sergeant First Class Adkins distinguished himself during the period 9 March 1966 to 12 March 1966 during combat operations at Camp A Shau, Republic of Vietnam. When the camp was attacked by a large Viet Cong force, Sergeant First Class Adkins rushed through intense hostile fire and manned a mortar position. Although he was wounded, he ran through exploding mortar rounds and dragged several of his comrades to safety. When the hostile fire subsided, Sergeant First Class Adkins exposed himself to sporadic sniper fire and carried his wounded comrades to the camp dispensary. During the evacuation of a seriously wounded American, Sergeant First Class Adkins maneuvered outside the camp walls to draw fire and successfully covered the rescue. During the early morning hours of 10 March 1966, a Viet Cong regiment launched their main attack. Within two hours, Sergeant First Class Adkins was the only man firing a mortar weapon. Although he was painfully wounded and most of his crew was killed or wounded, he fought off the fanatical waves of attacking Viet Cong. After withdrawing to a communications bunker where several Americans were attempting to fight off a company of Viet Cong, Sergeant First Class Adkins killed numerous insurgents with his suppressive fire. Running extremely low on ammunition, he returned to the mortar pit, gathered the vital ammunition, and ran through intense fire back to the communications bunker. After being ordered to evacuate the camp, all signal equipment and classified documents were destroyed. Sergeant First Class Adkins and a small group of men fought their way out of the camp and evaded the Viet Cong for two days until they were rescued by a helicopter. Sergeant First Class Adkins' extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



2. PATRICK HENRY BRADY

Rank: Major

Organization: U.S. Army

Company: 54th Medical Detachment

Division: 67th Medical Group, 44th Medical Brigade

Born: 1 October 1936, Philip, S. Dak.

Entered Service At: Seattle, Wash.

Date of Issue: 10/09/1969

Place / Date: Near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam, 6 January 1968



Citation

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, Maj. Brady distinguished himself while serving in the Republic of Vietnam commanding a UH-1H ambulance helicopter, volunteered to rescue wounded men from a site in enemy held territory which was reported to be heavily defended and to be blanketed by fog. To reach the site he descended through heavy fog and smoke and hovered slowly along a valley trail, turning his ship sideward to blow away the fog with the backwash from his rotor blades. Despite the unchallenged, close-range enemy fire, he found the dangerously small site, where he successfully landed and evacuated 2 badly wounded South Vietnamese soldiers. He was then called to another area completely covered by dense fog where American casualties lay only 50 meters from the enemy. Two aircraft had previously been shot down and others had made unsuccessful attempts to reach this site earlier in the day. With unmatched skill and extraordinary courage, Maj. Brady made 4 flights to this embattled landing zone and successfully rescued all the wounded. On his third mission of the day Maj. Brady once again landed at a site surrounded by the enemy. The friendly ground force, pinned down by enemy fire, had been unable to reach and secure the landing zone. Although his aircraft had been badly damaged and his controls partially shot away during his initial entry into this area, he returned minutes later and rescued the remaining injured. Shortly thereafter, obtaining a replacement aircraft, Maj. Brady was requested to land in an enemy minefield where a platoon of American soldiers was trapped. A mine detonated near his helicopter, wounding 2 crewmembers and damaging his ship. In spite of this, he managed to fly 6 severely injured patients to medical aid. Throughout that day Maj. Brady utilized 3 helicopters to evacuate a total of 51 seriously wounded men, many of whom would have perished without prompt medical treatment. Maj. Brady's bravery was in the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself and the U.S. Army.



3. PAUL WILLIAM BUCHA

Rank: Captain

Organization: U.S. Army

Company: Company D, 3d Battalion

Division: 187th Infantry, 3d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division

Born: 1 August 1943, Washington, D.C.

Entered Service At: U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

Date of Issue: 05/14/1970

Place / Date: Near Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong Province, Republic of Vietnam, 16- 19 March 1968



Citation

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Capt. Bucha distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer, Company D, on a reconnaissance-in-force mission against enemy forces near Phuoc Vinh. The company was inserted by helicopter into the suspected enemy stronghold to locate and destroy the enemy. During this period Capt. Bucha aggressively and courageously led his men in the destruction of enemy fortifications and base areas and eliminated scattered resistance impeding the advance of the company. On 18 March while advancing to contact, the lead elements of the company became engaged by the heavy automatic weapon, heavy machine gun, rocket propelled grenade, Claymore mine and small-arms fire of an estimated battalion-size force. Capt. Bucha, with complete disregard for his safety, moved to the threatened area to direct the defense and ordered reinforcements to the aid of the lead element. Seeing that his men were pinned down by heavy machine gun fire from a concealed bunker located some 40 meters to the front of the positions, Capt. Bucha crawled through the hail of fire to single-handedly destroy the bunker with grenades. During this heroic action Capt. Bucha received a painful shrapnel wound. Returning to the perimeter, he observed that his unit could not hold its positions and repel the human wave assaults launched by the determined enemy. Capt. Bucha ordered the withdrawal of the unit elements and covered the withdrawal to positions of a company perimeter from which he could direct fire upon the charging enemy. When 1 friendly element retrieving casualties was ambushed and cut off from the perimeter, Capt. Bucha ordered them to feign death and he directed artillery fire around them. During the night Capt. Bucha moved throughout the position, distributing ammunition, providing encouragement and insuring the integrity of the defense. He directed artillery, helicopter gunship and Air Force gunship fire on the enemy strong points and attacking forces, marking the positions with smoke grenades. Using flashlights in complete view of enemy snipers, he directed the medical evacuation of 3 air-ambulance loads of seriously wounded personnel and the helicopter supply of his company. At daybreak Capt. Bucha led a rescue party to recover the dead and wounded members of the ambushed element. During the period of intensive combat, Capt. Bucha, by his extraordinary heroism, inspirational example, outstanding leadership and professional competence, led his company in the decimation of a superior enemy force which left 156 dead on the battlefield. His bravery and gallantry at the risk of his life are in the highest traditions of the military service, Capt. Bucha has reflected great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.



4. ROBERT “BOB” PATTERSON

Rank: Specialist Fourth Class

Organization: U.S. Army

Company: 3d Platoon, Troop B, 2d Squadron

Division: 17th Cavalry, 101st Airborne Division

Born: 16 April 1948, Durham, North Carolina

Date of Issue: 10/09/1969

Place / Date: Near La Chu, Republic of Vietnam, 6 May 1968



Citation

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sgt. Patterson (then Sp4c.) distinguished himself while serving as a fire team leader of the 3d Platoon, Troop B, during an assault against a North Vietnamese Army battalion which was entrenched in a heavily fortified position. When the leading squad of the 3d Platoon was pinned down by heavy interlocking automatic weapon and rocket propelled grenade fire from 2 enemy bunkers, Sgt. Patterson and the 2 other members of his assault team moved forward under a hail of enemy fire to destroy the bunkers with grenade and machinegun fire. Observing that his comrades were being fired on from a third enemy bunker covered by enemy gunners in one-man spider holes, Sgt. Patterson, with complete disregard for his safety and ignoring the warning of his comrades that he was moving into a bunker complex, assaulted and destroyed the position. Although exposed to intensive small arm and grenade fire from the bunkers and their mutually supporting emplacements. Sgt. Patterson continued his assault upon the bunkers which were impeding the advance of his unit. Sgt. Patterson single-handedly destroyed by rifle and grenade fire 5 enemy bunkers, killed 8 enemy soldiers and captured 7 weapons. His dauntless courage and heroism inspired his platoon to resume the attack and to penetrate the enemy defensive position. Sgt. Patterson's action at the risk of his life has reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

Semper FI
John E Miller
Historian
Detachment 597
Marine Corps League



ADJUTANT

John Coley

w4simi@yahoo.com



From the Desk of the Adjutant

Marines, Corpsman and Associates,

Congratulations to our new officers for the 2020-2021 Year. After the second and final round of nominations, a secret ballot was conducted with 22 regular members in good standing casting their choices. Harry Hodges was elected as Commandant for the first time, seeing that he stepped up from Sr. Vice Commandant after Dick Jennings assumed the State Commandant position in June, halfway through his second tour as Detachment Commandant. Ben Pfister was elected Sr. Vice Commandant, John Miller as Jr. Vice Commandant and Martin Spann elected Judge Advocate. The installation of officers will take place on 05 March during the general membership meeting. The uniform for the March meeting shall be the Red Blazer Formal Uniform for all elected and appointed officers. All appointed officers will be announced at the March meeting before installation.

On 04 February, a ceremony honoring four Medal of Honor Recipients at the Museum of Military History, in the Simi Valley Town Center, greeted Major General Patrick Brady, Capt. Paul Bucha, Command Sergeant Major Robert Patterson and Command Sergeant Major Bennie Adkins. Our Sr. Vice Commandant, Martin Spann, was the Master of Ceremonies and did an outstanding job of leading the discussions and asking pointed questions of the four recipients. Some of the answers held the audience in awe while others brought laughter from the crowd.





Our Color Guard presented the colors of all the branches of the armed forces. The team that presented the colors were - National Ensign (Larry Fischer), Army (Dave Opfer), Marine Corps (Fausto Galvan), Navy (Harry Hodges), Air Force (John Coley), and Coast Guard (Ben Pfister).





The next meeting of the MODD will be on the 10th of March at the Junkyard in Simi Valley. The last two turnouts of the Pound were embarrassing with only eleven members attending at each meeting. If you are a member, you should make a concerted effort to attend the Growls of the Order. The Bylaws of the Pound state a number of members shall attend a Growl, or no official business can be transacted.

The Detachment received a letter from Colonel Jerry Knotts of the Conejo Valley Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars thanking the Honor Guard for Capt. Emmet "Rosie" Nolan's funeral on 28 December 2019 and the extraordinary efforts to arrange for the honors on such short notice. Enclosed was a check for \$300.

The Color /Honor Guard did four events in the month of January and has ten events scheduled, so far, in the month of February. On 07 February, the Honor Guard did a Rifle Detail for the cousin of Bob "The Bugler" Martinez, U.S. Navy Veteran Raymond Valdez. The flag folding was done by active duty Navy.

Pictured from left to right are: Bob "The Bugler" Martinez, Rifle Detail Commander Fausto Galvan, Riflemen Ramon Arevalo, Dave Opfer, Harry Hodges, Ben Pfister, John Coley, Larry Fischer, John Miller and spent round presenter Ken "Doc" Honaker.



The Color Guard continues to have a busy calendar, as last year, and they can use new volunteers to assist in all of the future functions. Marines don't leave Marines behind – there are times when Honor Guard details are needed for two or more services all on the same day and we don't have the manpower to cover these honors. These are your brothers. We need your help. We will train you so you will be ready to honor these Marines. If you would like to volunteer contact Ruy "Top" Peña @ 818-912-9863.



Remember that the next general meeting of the Detachment will be on the 5th of March at the Elks Lodge in Simi Valley. Please grace us with your presence.

Semper Fidelis,

John Coley
Adjutant



THE DOG ROBBER HOWLS

Pound 325, Ventura County Devil Dogs
California Pack 2012 Pound of the Year

DD Rudy Cordero

Pound Keeper

tunnelrat628@gmail.com

818-926-7380



Woof Devil Dogs,

Our next meeting of the MODD will be on the 10th of March, @ 1900 at the Junkyard in Simi Valley. I hope to see all of you there, and I have something for all of you.

Anyone wishing to become a member of the MODD must be an active member of the MCL with at least one year as a member and let the Commandant know that you're interested in joining the MODD. Unfortunately associate members aren't allowed to join.

Woof,
PDD Rudy Cordero
Pound Keeper



EVENTS DIRECTOR

Ken 'Doc' Honaker

kdhonaker@gmail.com

805-416-4063, Mobile



Some of you may have noticed I recently have missed meetings and have had to stand down for some color guard and honor guard details. My wife has had health issues that have occupied my heart, head and time. She is progressing thanks to medical attention and prayers from many of our family and friends including our MCL family. Thank you for your support. It is truly demonstrative of Semper Fidelis.



On the events side of our beloved Marine Corps League, the next community based activity will be the annual Simi Valley Street Fair scheduled for 2 May 2020. Being an all-day ordeal, manning Big Red will be in order. More details as the festivity draws near. As always it is a day to spread the word of the Marine Corps League and what we are all about. Stay tuned for more details.

Semper Fi.
Doc Honaker
Director of Events



COLOR GUARD COMMANDER

Ruy Peña

colorguard597@gmail.com

818-912-9863, Mobile



Color Guard Report

I am very proud of our Marines and the impact we make in our community. On Thursday, 30 January our 597 presented Colors at the Sunset Retirement Home at Wood Ranch for the recognition of retired educators. Representing our 597 were Matthew Gonzalez, Brent Kast, Ramon Arevalo, Ben Pfister and Fausto Galvan.

Libby Evens, the Events coordinator at Sunset Retirement Home, was very grateful and wrote me the following: "I got to see firsthand why my boyfriend is so proud to be a Marine, and why my Army dad is so impressed when he meets a Marine! Your presence honored all our seniors. One senior was so honored she insisted on standing, even though she was shaking. You stirred in all of us our pride in America. Come back anytime! I work in Activities on Sunday and Monday from 8:30-5pm."

Semper Fi and thank you for always being faithful!









PAYMASTER'S CORNER

ANDY DOBRZYNSKI

andydobrzynski@gmail.com

805-428-5902

My fellow Marines, Corpsmen and Associates,

We still have several members that have not renewed their membership. Please remember that unless you renew, you will not be able to participate in any of our functions. Please mail your renewal check as soon as possible.

For those members and associates who have not received for renewal invoices, you are most likely past due. Statements have been sent out to members, so please call me if you have not received your renewal invoices. To bring your membership current, please send your check made out to the President Ronald Reagan Detachment 597 of the Marine Corps League or MCL597; and mail it to:

MCL Detachment 597

P.O. Box 65

Simi Valley, CA 93062.

Happy New Year and Semper Fi!

Your paymaster,
Andy Dobrzynski

Birthdays for the month of February



Richard A. Gallegos	1	Kathren Martinez	16
Al Lansdale	4	Matthew Valenzuela*	24
Don Montgomery*	8	Jay Adelman	28
Timothy J. Stratton*	13	Ronald R. Reyes	28
Yolanda Pena	15		

*Life Member



Matt E. Valenzuela Past Commandant

mattval@aol.com

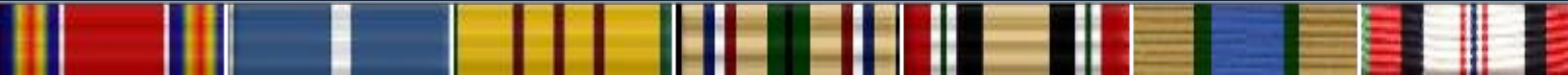
310-768-2847 Office

310-308-7015 Mobile



Valentine Sweethearts





Showoffs





New Life Members



Mardu Lydick



Ruy Peña



Close-up of Ruy's wizard eye!



William Trammell **Vice President Los Angeles Chapter #8** **Montford Point Marines Association**

wmtrammell@twc.com

Nothing to report this month.

Semper Fi,

Sincerely,

William M. Trammell

USMC (Ret)

Vice President, NMPMA Los Angeles



MANAGING EDITOR

RICHARD FARRA

richfarra@gmail.com

818-470-3258 Mobile

Strength in Numbers

Alone a single arrow will snap when bent, but many held together - they will not break. More voices are louder and heard versus a single voice. A herd of elephants is unstoppable versus a single wanderer. More members attending Detachment meetings and getting involved makes all of us stronger to do more.

We almost became non-existent as a Detachment last month, if it weren't for Ben Pfister stepping up, as well as Harry Hodges and John Miller carrying on by putting their own health second to their brothers. Our problem is that we are not reproducing – yes the circle of life. We are not recruiting younger members to carry on the Marine tradition after active duty. Our Detachment roots are shallow and drying out. And yes it's every members' responsibility to recruit – PERIOD!

How can Marines carry on a legacy if there are no acts of camaraderie? It's not a trick question. I'm not a Marine, but I grew up having a real Marine father, a 30 year Marine who fought in the Chosin Reservoir and Viet Nam. He instilled in us a sense of duty, honor and country. He went out of his way to help other Marines and Veterans in times of need, he knew what they have been through. He wore and displayed his EGAs proudly until his final breath.

I know what each and every one of you is capable of doing, if you are anything like my father was, you will step up to the plate and show each other that you are not just wearing the EGA to get a Veterans discount, but to show that you give a shit about each other.

So at a minimum, please help the Honor Guard to send off your brethren, recruit new members to keep this legacy alive, and do it for the love of being part of something greater than yourself, you are a United States Marine.

Thank you,
Rich Farra
Managing Editor



2019-2020 BOARD MEMBERS AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Rank or Title	Name	Phone	E-mail
Commandant	Harry Hodges	805-515-1401	Hodges1951@gmail.com
Sr. Vice Commandant	Martin Spann	805-813-1061	Teamcommando.2004@gmail.com
Jr. Vice Commandant	John Miller	805-581-5462	johnemillerusmc@gmail.com
Jr. Past Commandant			
Judge Advocate			
Adjutant	John Coley	805-368-1086	w4simi@yahoo.com
Paymaster	Andy Dobrzynski	805-428-5902	andydobrzynski@gmail.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	Fausto Galvan	818-259-2119	Faustogalvan14@gmail.com
Corporal of the Guard	John Fuentes	805-485-4230	John.R.Fuentes@Nav.mil
Chaplain			
Color Guard Commander	Ruy Peña	818-912-9863	colorguard597@gmail.com
Color Guard Vice Commander	Fausto Galvan	818-259-2119	Faustogalvan14@gmail.com
Ship's Store Captain	Harry Hodges	805-515-1401	Hodges1951@gmail.com
Director of Events	Ken "Doc" Honaker	805-416-4063	kdhonaker@gmail.com
Director of Speakers	Robert Martinez	805-368-7001	Thebugler597@yahoo.com
Fundraising Chairman	Harry Hodges	805-515-1401	Hodges1951@gmail.com
Historian	John Miller	805-581-5462	johnemillerusmc@gmail.com
Managing Editor, The Gipper	Richard Farra	818-470-3258	richfarra@gmail.com
Young Marines	Fausto Galvan Timothy Stratton Juan Avalos	818-259-2119 661-257-9690 (858) 229-1894	Fausto_galvan0471@yahoo.com e-8sierra@sbcglobal.net avalosimscvym@gmail.com
Toys For Tots Chairman	John Mitchell	805-379-9664	Kathleen.Mitchell.is18@statefarm.com
Fundraising Coordinator	Debbie Sands	818-535-4738	dsandsconsulting@aol.com
Director of Associates	Valeria Galvan	818-302-9816	ValeriaHGalvan@yahoo.com
MODD			
MODD Pound Keeper	Rudy Cordero	818-926-9380	Tunnelrat628@gmail.com
VAVS MODD Dept. of CA Pack - Watch Dog	Fausto Galvan	818-259-2119	fausto_galvan471@yahoo.com



ATTENTION ON DECK

EMAIL ADDRESSES: If you did NOT receive this newsletter via email, it means your email isn't on the detachment roster. Please email Dick Jennings with your new email address to: mcl597commandant@gmail.com.

DD214 REPLACEMENT AND MILITARY MEDALS & AWARDS: Are you in need of a replacement DD214? Are you missing awards or medals and would like to get your records updated? Would you like to get the military records of a deceased next of kin? Please visit www.archives.gov/veterans/ to fill out the eVetRecs online system or download the SF180 form.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS: Members more than 6 months past due will no longer receive the newsletter and will be removed from the roster prior to publication. MCL National HQ requires a new application if a member is more than 12 months past due. To bring your dues up to date, contact the Paymaster. Renewal dues are \$40 per year, and due in September. New member dues are \$45. All new applicants for regular membership must be prepared to show proof of Honorable military service with a DD214.

MCL Det. #597 GENERAL MEETINGS

1st Thursday of each month

Simi Valley Elks Lodge #2492

1561 Kuehner Drive

Simi Valley, CA 93065

Meet and Greet 1800

Dinner 1800-1859

Meeting 1900

BOARD MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month – start time 1600

US Bank Building

1445 East Los Angeles Avenue, Room 302

Simi Valley, CA 93065