

# Kalamazoo Detachment Marine Corps League **The Scuttlebutt**    March 2024



Adan Moreno, John Hadder, Larry Sweerin, Blaine & Grace Kalafut with Dick Carruthers.

The MCL Detachment has been attending funeral services for Marines and other Veterans for many years. A unique opportunity to honor a living marine occurred on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Dick Carruthers is in Hospice care in his home. We had the privilege of meeting him and his family. While Mr. Carruthers memory is not as strong as it once was, his sense of humor was clearly intact. He served in the Marine Corps from 1957-1959. Carruthers was presented with accolades from the Hospice Chaplin. MCL Commandant John Hadder presented him with a Detachment challenge coin. It was clear from the eyes of the Carruthers family that this recognition ceremony was deeply felt. Semper Fi Mr. Carruthers.



## MCL Commandant's Notes.....

Our March meeting was packed with a lot of good topics as well as a great update on veteran benefits by Pete Green. Pete has agreed to provide quarterly hip-pocket classes on various topics to ensure our membership is aware of the various benefits available.

We also had signups for the summer MCL rifle and pistol matches that we will be holding to allow interested detachment members to compete in a fun and relaxed environment. Since this is our first year participating, we will conduct two separate events yet to be determined. If you were not able to sign up but are interested, please contact John Hadder for more information.

Mid-month, the detachment was present to honor Dick Carruthers, a Marine veteran in Hospice during a small ceremony at his home. This is exactly the type of support for our brother and sister Marines that we want to be about. We are now connected to the Hospice chaplain so that we are notified of any other Marines in Hospice and support similar ceremonies.

We also held our quarterly officer's staff meeting where we discussed the update to the VFW House Committee bylaws.

Thanks to Michael Beahon for sending everyone the minutes of that meeting as well as the regular meeting. Our big upcoming event is the MCL Central Division Conference April 5 - 6. This is being held at the Delta Hotel in Oshtemo. We still could use a few more volunteers. We also ask any Marine Corps Vietnam era veterans to please come and be honored at a pinning ceremony Friday the 6th at 1500. This convention is also a great opportunity to meet other MCL members and attend the Central Division business meeting on Saturday at 1000. The uniform is civilian casual, no t-shirts or shorts. Wear your red garrison cover, if you have one.

We look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on April 11 at 1900. Please come HUNGRY and purchase the good food available at a modest cost. I will be partaking and hope you will too. This is one way we help ensure our meeting house is able to meet the annual financial obligations. You're also encouraged to visit outside of meeting days for a beer or tacos on Tuesday evenings. Semper Fidelis!





## Tuesday and Thursday Meals at the VFW1527

Help support the VFW by enjoying a meal every Tuesday (Taco Tuesday) and Thursday (Chef's choice). 1800-2000 Cost is \$10.

Come early to the MCL meeting and grab some dinner. Proceeds from these dinners help provide much needed financial operational support.

You can also support the VFW by enjoying refreshments in the bar.

Hours are 1400 – 2100 Weekdays, 1300 – 2100 Saturday, 1300 – 1800 Sundays.

## Special Breakfast Fundraiser

**Blue Star Mothers**  
**of Greater Kalamazoo #186**

**Breakfast Fundraiser**

When: 20 April 2024, 8 AM until noon  
Where: VFW 1527 Red Arrow Post, 1920 E Kilgore Rd, Portage

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Hashbrowns,  
Biscuits and Gravy, Coffee and Juice.

Cost is \$10 per person

This fundraiser is to help defray the costs of Operations Holiday Cheer boxes and Hometown Veterans boxes shipped out every holiday season.

**PUBLIC WELCOME**

Bloody Mary Bar available for \$5.00, sold separately