

April 2019

# Marine Corps League



**Marine Corps  
League #790  
Detachment  
Newsletter**

**Next Meeting:  
May 6, 2019 19:00 hours in  
the Coffee Shop  
Happy Hour 20:00 to 22:00  
hours at the Firehouse**

Happy Spring! Our first event coming up is the dance on the 27th of April. BenJamin will be the band. Please bring snacks and a gift or two to raffle off.

We need to be at 30th Maine area by 0700 as the Dogwood parade line-up is 0800. We will have a couple of vehicles for those who do not wish to walk in the parade. Please talk to your wives about joining the auxiliary. My wife Mindy, and Jesus' wife Melissa are overseeing the auxiliary started when we have enough ladies to join. Let me know at the meeting on May 6th so we can contact Department and get the auxiliary back up and running. Please attend as we need all our Marines there.

**SEMPER FI!**

Luke Doellman  
2019 Commandant  
Gem City Detachment #790  
Marine Corps League  
Quincy, Illinois

## Commandants message regarding the Wall

WASHINGTON — The commandant of the Marines has warned the Pentagon that deployments to the southwest border and funding transfers under the president's emergency declaration, among other unexpected demands, have posed "unacceptable risk to Marine Corps combat readiness and solvency."

In two internal memos, Marine Corps Gen. Robert Neller said the "unplanned/unbudgeted" deployment along the border that President Donald Trump ordered last fall, and shifts of other funds to support border security, had forced him to cancel or reduce planned military training in at least five countries, and delay urgent repairs at bases.

The border deployment and funding transfers, as well as recovery costs from Hurricanes Florence and Michael, new housing allowances and civilian pay raises, are taking a toll on combat readiness, Neller wrote to Navy Secretary Richard Spencer and Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan.

The Los Angeles Times obtained copies of the memos, dated March 18 and March 19.

Neller, a four-star general, said because of the problems, Marines will not participate in planned training exercises in Indonesia, Scotland and Mongolia, and will reduce their participation in joint exercises with Australia and South Korea.

Marines "rely on the hard, realistic training" of the exercises "to develop the individual and collective skills necessary to prepare for high-end combat," Neller said.

He complained about canceling or shrinking the Marines' participation "at a time where we are attempting to double down on strengthening alliances and attracting new partners."

While the armed services chiefs often warn of budget shortfalls, independent experts who reviewed Neller's memos described the language as unusually strong, in particular because it cites the president's highest-profile political priorities.

"It's pretty unusual for the commandant to be raising concerns that ... a top political priority for the president is undermining the ability of the Marine Corps to do the training they need," said Mandy Smithberger, a defense expert at the Project for Government Oversight, a nonpartisan independent watchdog group.

"It looks like from Commandant Neller's perspective, he does think these policies are undermining readiness," she added.

"This is a pretty strongly worded memo," said Todd Harrison, director of defense budget analysis at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a nonpartisan think tank in Washington.

Retrieved from Task & Purpose (<https://taskandpurpose.com/marine-commandant-deploying-troops-to-the-usmexico-border-poses-an-unacceptable-risk-to-the-corps>)

# Coming Events-2019

**April 27—First Dance of the Season—** Vets Home Smith Hall (coffee shop) 18:00 to 20:00 Hours.  
BenJamin will be the band

**May 4 — Dogwood Parade—**Line up #82, approximately 30-36th Maine St. Must be lined up by 0800,  
everyone please be there around 0700, dress appropriately

**June 3 —Detachment Meeting —**Coffee Shop at Veterans Home 1900 hours. Happy hour to follow

**July 1 —Detachment Meeting —** Coffee Shop at Veterans Home 1900 hours. Happy hour to follow

**July 20—Cardboard Regatta—** Details pending

**Nov 9—Veterans Parade—**Details pending

**Nov 9-10 —Marine Corps Birthday Dinner —** Details Pending

**Nov 10—244th Marine Corps Birthday**

**\*\*Marine Corps Dances—** May 25, June 29, July 27, Aug. 31, Sept 28\*\*

Upcoming events TBD: MCL night for family at Scotty's Funspot, Sadie Hawkins dance, Mess night

NOTE: Membership annual dues are \$35.00. MCL National does NOT send out a notice

<b>2019 Officers</b>		<b>Phone</b>
<b>Commandant</b>	<b>DOELLMAN, LUKE</b>	<b>(217) 617-3152</b>
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<b>Adjutant</b>	<b>CANE, STEPHEN</b>	<b>(217) 224-6360</b>
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<b>Sergeant-At-Arms</b>	<b>BENNER, CHRISTOPHER</b>	<b>(217) 440-6514</b>
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<b>Trustee 2017</b>	<b>HAMANN, STEVEN L.</b>	<b>(217) 577-1507</b>
<b>Jr. Past Commandant</b>	<b>HAMANN, STEVEN L.</b>	<b>(217) 577-1507</b>
<b>Quartermaster</b>	<b>GEISE, THOMAS</b>	<b>(217) 223-5894</b>

# Ladies Auxiliary

Fellow Marines talk to your wives and see if any of them are interested in joining the ladies auxiliary. My wife Mindy and Jesus' wife Melissa are the point of contacts. They are trying to see how many ladies would like to join so we can get the auxiliary back up and running. This matter will be brought up at the next meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup>. My wife's cell number is 217-440-1804. Melissa's cell number is 217-430-5083.

The next newsletter will be printed around the end of May. Please let me know what you would like to see included in the monthly newsletters. I have already heard from Jeanette Geise she would like to know the dates of the dances. This will be included with whom we tentatively have scheduled for a band. We are also going to discuss the themes of the dances to try and make the dances more fun for our veterans. If you have any ideas, please let the me or Jeff Jansen know.

Visit us on our websites:

[www.gemcity790.org](http://www.gemcity790.org)

[www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)

[www.marinecorpstimes.com](http://www.marinecorpstimes.com)

[www.theillinoismarine.com](http://www.theillinoismarine.com)

Or on Facebook at:

[Gem City Detachment 790 Marine Corps League](#)