



SEMPER FI

October 2026 — November 2026

Newsletter of The Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League



Hello Marines and Associates;

Summer is over and we are heading into fall and with that our busy season. In October we mark the Beirut bombing in Lebanon, where 241 Americans lost their lives 220 of them were Marines. This was the largest loss of life in one day since D-Day on Iwo Jima. This would be a good time to catch up on bringing all of your members up to date on their dues, and completing the PLM Audits which are due November 10th to me and to National.

We have Birthday Ball season and so far I know that Brass City will have their Ball on November 7th In Waterbury their flyer is in this Newsletter. Hardware City will have their Ball on November 8th in Meriden. Who else is having a Birthday Celebration and more importantly who plans on attending.

After we celebrate our Birthday we go right into Toys for Tots, not everyone participates in this, but for those that do it is a very worthwhile and important project. While we are completing this project, we will Remember Pearl Harbor. We used to have a special event at Southington Memorial but we haven't had one in a while, so this year I would like to bring it back as part of the Department Meeting on December 6th at Rocky Hill.

As we close out this year we will be closing the Paul C. Houghton Detachment, due to membership and participation. We cannot function in an environment where a few people hold all of the positions and are forced into doing all of the work. Losing a detachment is never a good thing but we must focus on the detachments that are left and work on building them and making them stronger that they may grow and thrive. There was a guidebook sent out on ways to recruit and it had some very basic and easy methods. Look at it see what you can do for your detachment. Some are as easy as placing a label over your name on the Semper Fi Magazines, and leaving in a Doctors office.

Let's think about becoming an officer in your detachment, Department, or Division, new blood brings new ideas and a fresh outlook on the future. I sent out an e-mail about creating flyers for recruiting, for reminders on meetings and events your detachment is hosting. When you make up these flyers make them focused on the things your detachment actually does. If you don't do Toys for Tots then don't list it as one of your activities. When you speak to someone about joining the League get their e-mail address and send them a Newsletter, if you don't have one use the Department or Division Newsletters. It is a way to keep the league on their mind without constantly bothering them.

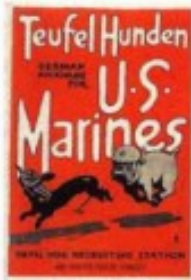
I send a lot of e-mail out on information to help or assist veterans, and it is information that is forwarded to me. Please use this information to fulfill our mission and help the veteran community we serve. The Department is looking for a Sgt-At-Arms, as Ray Burrington will be absent for a while as he does some traveling. It is a good starting point to get familiar how a Department works and it could prepare you for running for a higher office in the future. It will give you an opportunity to help shape who we are and where we are going. If you cannot take on a leadership role perhaps you can assist in some of the projects that we are involved in. Does your detachment do roses? Do you do scholarships? What is your detachment doing and please forward the pictures and information to the active Newsletters. In the near future we will be working on the Department website to add access to the Newsletters and Photos. When people find the website they can see what you and your detachment are doing.



Semper Fidelis,
Walt Benson
59th Commandant
Department of Connecticut



CONNECTICUT



U.S. MARINE CORPS 251th BIRTHDAY BALL

Presented by

The Brass City Memorial Detachment- Marine Corps League

Saturday, November 7th, 2026

Guest Speaker: TBD

**Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) Club
91 Golden Hill Street, Waterbury, CT 06706
\$50.00 per person**

*******Raffle Prizes, DJ music and dancing*******

6 pm to 7 pm: Open Bar with Hors d'oeuvres, followed by a Cash Bar

Buffet Style Dinner, USMC Birthday Cake, Coffee and Tea

(Dress is formal)

Payment Info:

Make checks out to "Brass City MCL", mail to:

Jim Lauber

64 Woodhaven St, Waterbury, CT 06708

Or notify:

Jim Lauber –Detachment Commandant 203-217-0438

Tony Pina –Senior Vice Commandant 203-850-8908

To be added to Guest list, and pay at the door.



CONNECTICUT



★ **AMERICAN LEGION** ★
POST 68

Coffee w/ Vets

★ **FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH** ★

9 AM TO 10:30 AM



✓ **ALL VETERANS WELCOMED
AND CAN BRING ONE
NON VETERAN GUEST**

★

✓ **ENJOY A HOT BREAKFAST,
COFFEE, CONVERSATIONS
AND CAMARADERIE**



**154 PORTERS PASS
BERLIN CT 06037**



**ANY QUESTIONS
CALL OR TEXT MO
860-268-8969**

★ ★ ★ *All Gave Some... Some Gave All* ★ ★ ★



CONNECTICUT



Coffee with Veterans

9 AM – 11 AM

1ST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

AMERICAN LEGION POST 68 HALL

**COME ENJOY FREE COFFEE, HOT BREAKFAST
& GOOD CONVERSATIONS!**



*Feel free to bring
ONE guest!*

IF YOU NEED A RIDE PLEASE CONTACT:

MO JORDAN

860-268-8969

AMERICANLEGIONAUXPOST68@GMAIL.COM

154 Porters Pass, Berlin CT 06037



CONNECTICUT



POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY



YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

SEPTEMBER 18

Today, we pause to honor the American service members who were prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action.

Behind every name is a family that waited, a community that remembered, and a story that deserves to be carried forward.



For those who returned home,
we honor your sacrifice.

For those still unaccounted for,
we continue to remember.

For the families who have carried
unanswered questions across
generations, we stand with you.

**YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN.
YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.**



ALL GAVE SOME
SOME GAVE ALL



HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ NEVER FORGET



CONNECTICUT



BEFORE THE SUN RISES...

WE REMEMBER ★ WE RECONNECT ★ WE WALK TOGETHER

NO VETERAN
WALKS ALONE.



SHAKE HANDS
with old friends.



MEET NEW
brothers & sisters.



HONOR
those who are no
longer with us.

HINDS,
JIMINEZ,
MONACO,
PORTER,
WELCH...



WHO DO YOU WALK FOR?



A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ★ CAMARADERIE ★ HEALING. ★ HOPE.

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED



CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

PETER P. MONACO DETACHMENT

★ SERVICE ★ COMMUNITY ★ ALWAYS A MARINE

*Once a Marine
Always a Marine*



HIKE TO REMEMBER

NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

Freedom is never free.

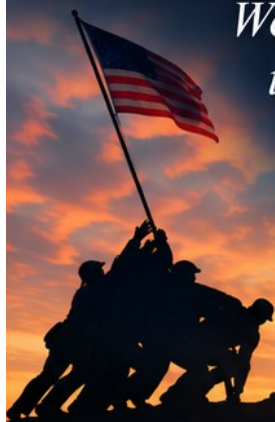
*We walk to remember
their sacrifice, and to
ensure they are
never forgotten.*



*Scan Here
to Watch
the Video*



**WATCH ON
YOUTUBE**



ALL GAVE SOME
SOME GAVE ALL

SEMPER FIDELIS

★ HONOR

★ REMEMBER

★ SUPPORT

★ SERVE



CONNECTICUT



HIKE TO REMEMBER 2026

PETER P. MONACO DETACHMENT 40
GLASTONBURY CT



WE HIKE
WE REMEMBER
WE SERVE

HONOR
REMEMBER
SUPPORT
COMMUNITY
NEVER
FORGET

HIKERS
PLUS
COMMUNITY
SUPPORT

More Than A Hike...
A PROMISE

MARINES ★ VETERANS ★ FIRST RESPONDERS ★ COMMUNITY ★ TOGETHER



CONNECTICUT



★ HIKE TO REMEMBER 2026 ★

PETER P. MONACO DETACHMENT 40 • GLASTONBURY CT

HIKERS
PLUS
COMMUNITY
SUPPORT



DIFFERENT PATHS
SAME PURPOSE
A STRONGER
TOMORROW

SUPPORTING VETERANS ★ STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES ★ KEEPING MEMORIES ALIVE



CONNECTICUT



I started working on this about three years ago, and due to time and life I put it aside and said later. Then at the CT had a Challenge Coin we do not even have our own logo. Other states have their own version EGA in the center and a combined with it. This is got some help from AI to logo and if we like it our I believe everyone should that you look at it, pick it any changes you would it out and start over. I think of recognizable logo to Departments, but it thing I created. It also use it as our challenge coin. Tell me what you think.



conference I was asked if and of course we do not, own logo. Other states which is a circle with the silhouette of the state the one I envisioned and I create this image as our coin down the road. Since have a say in this I ask apart and come up with like to make it; or throw we should have some type distinguish us from other doesn't have to be some- does not mean we should

Every Great Detachment HAS A STORY. Share It!

A NEWSLETTER KEEPS YOUR DETACHMENT CONNECTED, INFORMED, AND MOVING FORWARD—TOGETHER.

SHARE YOUR SUCCESSES Highlight events, programs, and accomplishments that show the difference you're making.	STAY CONNECTED Keep members informed and engaged with news, updates, and important announcements.	BUILD STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS A newsletter builds trust, strengthens community, and shows appreciation for your members and supporters.	INSPIRE INVOLVEMENT When people know what you're doing, they're more likely to get involved, volunteer, and support your mission.	LEAVE A LASTING IMPACT Your newsletter creates a record of your journey and the legacy you're building together.
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Don't keep it to yourself. TELL YOUR STORY.

START A NEWSLETTER TODAY AND LET YOUR DETACHMENT SHINE!
Together, we're stronger. Together, we're making a difference.

START YOUR DETACHMENT NEWSLETTER TODAY!

I stole this from the Dept of Georgia and their Newsletter, because I love the effort. A lot of detachments used to have Newsletters. Some had a regular schedule for theirs and others offered them when ever they had time, but the value of a newsletter cannot be measured as it has so many purposes. It informs others of what you are doing and the events you are hosting and supporting. It is a non invasive tool for recruiting when you speak to a possible recruit and they say they have to time or not right now, ask them if they would like to receive your newsletter that way everytime you create one they will get a copy and they are aware of what you are doing. It allows others in the Department, Division, and the league to see what

your detachment and your people are doing and how they are supporting our mission. Lastly, they are a history of your organization. They will store all of the events that your organization was responsible for. Every Convention, every Conference, every Birthday Ball, Parade, Color Guard, Rose Program, Award Ceremony, all preserved. The graphic says every Detachment has a story to tell and indeed they do. It is about the mission we strive to deliver but more importantly it is the people who bring that mission to life and touch the Veterans and fellow Marines who we serve. One of our Marines has this on his email signature, Semper Fidelis, its not just a quote, it's a way of life.

Walt Benson



CONNECTICUT



CONNECTICUT VETERANS AFFAIRS STAND DOWN 2026



"Serving those who served"



NORWICH CT



★ ★ ★ *Together for Those Who Served* ★ ★ ★



CONNECTICUT





CONNECTICUT



**BRIGADERE GEN RON WELCH
RET.
CT COMMISSIONER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**



STAND DOWN ★ ROCKY HILL ★

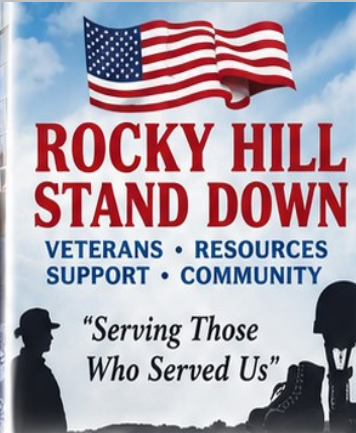
**SERVING THOSE
WHO SERVED**



SUPPORT ★ RESOURCES ★ COMMUNITY ★ HOPE



CONNECTICUT





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REMEMBER

25TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 – SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ NEVER FORGET

A DAY
OF TERROR

A NATION
UNITED

Twenty five years since the towers fell,
Smoke filled skies with images of hell.

Images burned in my mind so deep,
So many souls falling as we weep.

By ten am thousands were dead,
As millions sat focused on images of death.
They lie in the rubble where the towers once stood,
Some would never be found, not even God could.

Year by year we move farther away,
Each year we try to memorialize in a better way.

We ring the bell and call the long role,
We lay flower and trinkets because of a vow.

We stood on the site that very same day,
Swearing we would never forget this immortal day.

But life goes on and people's lives change,
Today it seems like we have lost our way.

But we are an amazing group of people,
And we can always turn things around.

Suck up the pain and remember that day,
An enemy attacked our home bringing death our way.

As we stand at ground zero reading the names,
Remember the rubble, and bodies that lay.

Remake the vow that you took on that day,
Say it to all that fell that day but say it loudly
as many of the graves are far, far away.

★ ★ ★
NEVER FORGET

— FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS —

ORDINARY
PEOPLE,
EXTRAORDINARY
COURAGE

A SPIRIT
THAT WILL
ALWAYS
RISE

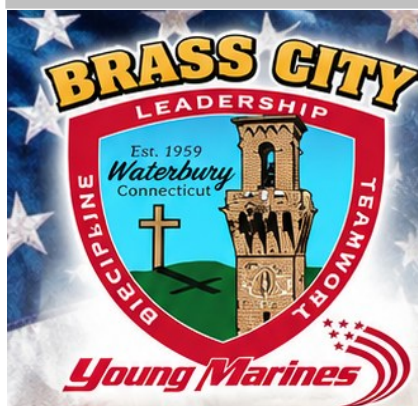
ALL GAVE SOME
SOME GAVE ALL

WE WILL
NEVER FORGET
9 ★ 11 ★ 2001

UNITED WE STAND ★ STRONGER TOGETHER ★ ALWAYS AMERICA



YOUNG MARINES



FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES



A YOUNG MARINE • A LEADER • A ROLE MODEL



ONCE A
MARINE
ALWAYS
A MARINE



It was with honor and privilege that on August 10th we retire SSgt Lavin after an amazing 10 years with our unit. His leadership, wisdom and strength has been a pillar at Brass City for many years. He has set an example for all young marines to follow and given lessons that will carry through to many future Young Marines in our program.

We wish him the best of luck as he starts his college journey at Quinnipiac.

Congratulations SSGT LAVIN!



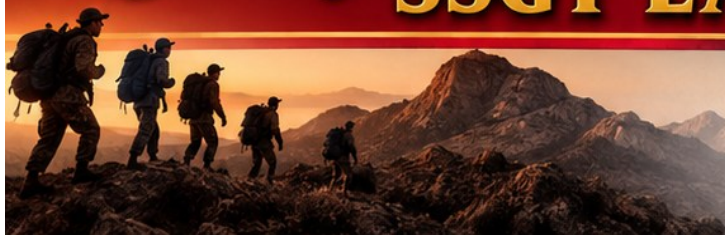
Quinnipiac
UNIVERSITY

"The Few. The Proud.
The Young Marines."



Semper Fi

LEADERSHIP TODAY ★ STRONGER TOMORROW





CONNECTICUT



CALLING ALL MARINES AND VETERANS



★ THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE IS LOOKING TO
ADD NEW MEMBERS TO HELP FULFILL THEIR MISSION. ★ ★ ★

THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE IS THE ONLY CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION.

We currently have ten Detachments of Marines located throughout the State, serving Marines, other Veterans and communities with Scholarships, Funeral Honors, Toys for Tots, as well as preserving and promoting the values and history of the United States Marine Corps.



SCHOLARSHIPS



FUNERAL HONORS



TOYS FOR TOTS

**WHEN YOU LEFT ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE ONE MISSION ENDED
BUT ANOTHER ONE, JUST AS IMPORTANT BEGAN.**

★ **ONCE A MARINE** ★ **ALWAYS A MARINE**

★ **TEN DETACHMENTS PROUDLY SERVING CONNECTICUT** ★

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Brass City Memorial Detachment #031
Waterbury CT | • Silver City Detachment #045
Meriden CT |
| • Peter P. Monaco Detachment #040
Glastonbury CT | • Southington Memorial Detachment #046
Southington CT |
| • Hardware City Detachment #781
New Britain CT | • Valley Detachment #048
Seymour CT |
| • Greater Bridgeport Detachment #654
Bridgeport CT | • Housatonic Detachment #1129
Stratford CT |
| • Northwest Detachment #042
Canaan CT | • Thames River Detachment #1334
Quaker Hill CT |

JOIN TODAY. CONTINUE THE MISSION. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

★ **HONOR** ★ **COURAGE** ★ **COMMITMENT** ★



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SUPPORT OUR IWO JIMA MONUMENT

*** SPONSOR OUR
ETERNAL FLAME ***

*** "IN MEMORY" OR
"IN HONOR OF" ***

*** \$15 FOR A DAY ***

*** \$100 FOR A WEEK ***

*** \$400 FOR A MONTH ***



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QUESTIONS: CONTACT ELAINE AT

IwoJimaMem.CT@gmail.com





2026

OCTOBER

2026



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



2026

NOVEMBER

2026



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Regardless of the situation the Marine Corps has an answer for almost everything.

A Marines Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer.

Amen

Attention To Orders
The Next Department of Connecticut Meeting
October 4, 2026
Rocky Hill Veterans Hospital
287 West St., Rocky Hill CT 06067
Building 50

