



The Scuttlebutt

The Award Winning
News Letter of The Marine Corps League

Major B.F. Hickey Detachment #57 PO Box 15503, St. Petersburg, FL 33773 www.stpeteMCL.org

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Date: February, 2018

Our Next Scheduled Meeting

Thursday February 8 at 7:00 pm

VFW Post #4364

5773 62nd Street N, Pinellas Park

If you need a ride to the meeting, arrangements can be made by contacting George Cooper at (727) 415-9315 a couple of hours or more before the meeting and we'll get you

Service for the Unattended

Tuesday February 6 at 3:00 pm

At Bay Pines National Cemetery

All hands are requested to attend and render honors.

Uniform is Red cap and shirt, black trousers.

Contact: Bob Cannon

bobusmc25@juno.com

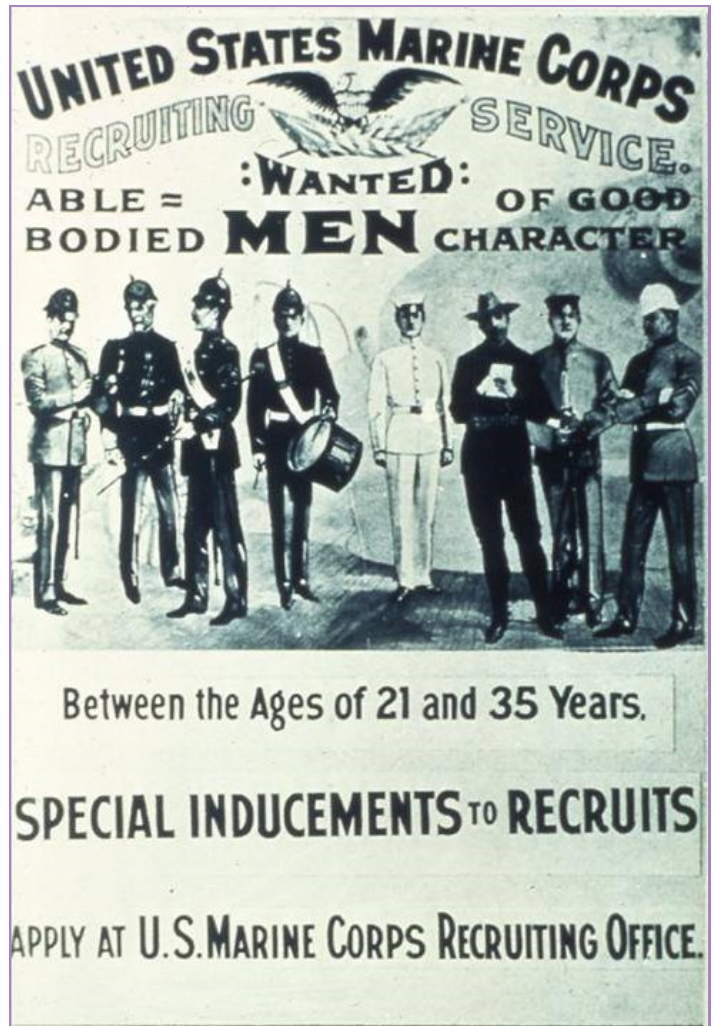
Saturday Shoot

Saturday, February 17 at 10:00 am

Wyoming Antelope Club

Contact: John Gluck

guntchri@tampabay.rr.com



Detachment 57, Officers for 2017

Commandant	George Cooper	cplcoop@tampabay.rr.com
Sr. Vice Commandant	Don Bostrom	donabost@gmail.com
Jr. Vice Commandant	Eric Hopkins	ehop14@yahoo.com
Judge Advocate	Bob Morris	bobmor501@gmail.com
Adjutant /Paymaster	Bob Decker	bdecker@bdeckerassociates.com
Sgt at Arms	Mike Garafalo	raesg@msn.com
Chaplain	Ed Pringle	eddiepringle@yahoo.com

The Scuttlebutt is edited by
George Cooper
cplcoop@tampabay.rr.com

Madiera Beach Rose Sale a Success

The Detachment held a Rose Sale on January 26 and 27 at the Publix Market at Bay Point Plaza, 5295 34th St. S. The event was another success for The St Pete Leathernecks in spite of the quirky weather. The crew shut down operations earlier than planned when the sky opened up on Sunday afternoon and traffic dwindled to almost zero.

The success was due in no small part to those Detachment Marines who were able to come out and support the effort.

Many thanks and Semper Fi to the following Marines

Walt Daly
Walt Smyth
Wayne Fortier
Bob Decker
Eric Hopkins

Bob Cannon
George Blick
Mike Cashman
Dee Lawson
George Cooper



The handsome man in the middle is Thomas Murphy Collins who gave us a very generous donation of funds he saved up for the veterans. We can't thank him enough. He is a nice young man and we enjoyed meeting him.

Help is needed for February's Rose Sale

The next Rose Sale will take place at the Publix, on the corner of 38th Ave. & 4th St. – SATURDAY ONLY – Feb. 17th

3700 4th St. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33704

This is the newer Publix in that area and it at one time was an Albertson's.

This is the same day as "the shoot", so plan on spending some smooze time at the Rose Sale either before but preferably after your range time.

All hands are requested to respond to the email Bob Decker will surely be sending out. Semper Fi!

MCL Mid Winter Conference

The following is from

Bob Borka

COO/HQMCL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This message is for distribution.

The main purpose of this message is to get the Mid-Winter schedule out to you (attached).

We are looking forward to seeing you at the 2018 Marine Corps League Mid-Winter Conference in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Dates: March 1 – 3rd

Fredericksburg Hospitality House Hotel & Conference Center

2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

There will be a shuttle available for \$25 per person each way from the Washington Reagan Airport. If you would like to use the shuttle, please send me your flight information so I can let the shuttle know. They will make 4 runs per day.

Spring Conference and Leadership School

Dept. of Florida-Marine Corps League
Spring Conference 2018

When April 4-8, 2018

Where: Safety Harbor Resort and Spa
105 Bayshore Drive
Safety Harbor FL 34695

Leadership School takes place on Friday, April 5 and takes up most of the day.

The Detachment will pay the registration fee for the school for its members.

Contact George Cooper if you wish to attend.

All hands are encouraged to attend. If you been before maybe its time for a refresher. I understand the course has bee update and shortened

Leadership School is an excellent opportunity for new League members, newly elected and appointed officers to have an opportunity to learn the procedures, policies and By-Laws essential for the successful operation of your Detachment, as you strive to work in partnership within the Marine Corps League. The school can add to the knowledge that you already have, and can build on that knowledge to give you the confidence to know that you are employing the best practices available to build and maintain a strong and viable detachment. Hopefully, you and your officers will be able to attend along with members of your Detachment who are aspiring to become elected or appointed officers.

So far Walt Smyth and Coop are attending for a refresher and we hope many Detachment members can join us.

New Detachment Photo

All Hands are requested to attend the February meeting. We'd like to update our Detachment group photo so it would be nice to get as many members as possible. We normally take out ads in the printed programs for the conference and conventions that occur during the year.

Red hats and red shirts please. Any serviceable red shirt will do. Lets look sharp for this one

Eagle Scout Citizenship Awards

The Detachment has the honor to once again present the MCL Citizenship Award to 2 Boy Scouts at their Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Detachment members are invited to attend the ceremony.

Red cap, red shirt and black trousers are OK. But if you have them wear the undress blues uniform.

Wed. Feb. 7, 2018 at 7:00 pm
St Raphael's Catholic Church
1376 Snell Isle Blvd. NE
St Petersburg, FL

WWAR Gala is just around the corner.

Mike Delancey has donated a table at this year's WWAR Gala for which we thank him very much. Semper Fi!

The Gala will take place on Saturday, 17 February, 2018 at The Performing Arts Center of Pinellas Park. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

There are 10 spaces available to detachment members so if you wish to attend please notify George Cooper.

Spaces at the table are first come ,first served.

VA Town Hall at Bay Pines

The [Bay Pines VA Healthcare System \(VAHCS\)](#), in collaboration with the St. Petersburg VA Regional Office, will host a Veterans town hall meeting on Monday, February 12, 2018 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The event will take place in the J.C. Cobb room located on the first floor of the [C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center \(building 100\)](#) located at 10000 Bay Pines Blvd., Bay Pines, Fla. 33744.

The town hall kicks-off National Salute to Veteran Patients Week. The week provides an opportunity for the community to pay tribute and express appreciation to Veterans, increase community awareness of the role VA plays, and to encourage citizens to visit hospitalized Veterans. In addition, VA Voluntary Service will be in attendance to deliver a special presentation and make resources available for those interested in making a difference locally.

VA outreach services and special program representatives will also be available to assist Veterans starting at 1:00 p.m. and will be available through the duration of the event. Services available will include VA health care enrollment and eligibility; VA benefits and claims assistance; and patient advocate services. Veterans and their loved ones, congressional stakeholders, Veterans Service Organizations and other community partners are invited to attend.

During the town hall, VA leaders from both organizations will provide updates on VA operations and improvement initiatives regarding VA health care and benefits. Veterans and their families will have an opportunity to comment publicly about VA programs and services.

This event is open to the media. For media inquiries or advanced information, please call 727-398-9531, or email vhabaypublicaffairs@va.gov. For updated information about the Veterans town

hall meeting or to learn more about the Bay Pines VAHCS, please subscribe to receive updates via email at www.baypines.va.gov/news/e_news_subscribe.asp, or connect with us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/vabaypines, and Twitter, www.twitter.com/vabaypines.

Veterans Advocacy Clinic - Legal Help for Veterans

This content was copied from the web page of The Veterans Advocacy Clinic.

The link <http://www.stetson.edu/law/veterans/legal-help-for-veterans.php> will be added to our web site on the resource page.

The Veterans Advocacy Clinic provides representation to Tampa Bay area veterans appealing decisions denying Veterans Administration disability benefits. Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Education Christine Cerniglia and Professor Stacey-Rae Simcox oversee Stetson Law students providing free legal assistance to veterans.

Help for Veterans Appealing VA Disability Benefits

If you are a Tampa Bay area veteran who needs legal help with appealing a decision denying Veterans Administration disability benefits, you can apply for clinic services by submitting our Client Application Form (see below). Or, if you would like us to mail an application to you, please call 727-562-7324 and leave your full name, mailing address, and phone.

Note: The Veterans Law Institute is unable to accept walk-ins, all applications for service must be made in writing. Your application will be reviewed and you will be notified whether the Veterans Advocacy Clinic can assist you.

Wills for Warriors

Bob Decker had sent this in an email along with some wise counsel. The contact will be listed on our web site on the resource page.

.....
PASS THIS ONTO OTHER VETERANS YOU KNOW.

If you don't have wills and powers of attorney or living will set up – here's your chance to get them done for free.

These documents are important to have in place. Don't leave your heirs sitting around all stressed out wondering what to do in the event you lose your marbles or go 6' under. That's not a good way to leave things.

Scroll down and read the message from the "Wills for Warriors" program.

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From: Wills for Warriors Gulfport [<mailto:warriors@law.stetson.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2018 11:31 AM
To: Wills for Warriors Gulfport <warriors@law.stetson.edu>
Subject: Wills for Warriors: Free Wills for Qualified Veterans

Good morning VFW Post,

We are reaching out to invite Veterans to our annual Wills for Warriors program at Stetson University College of Law. Wills for Warriors offers free advanced directives and/or wills to qualified Veterans. This program will occur on February 28. Each Veteran will meet with law students and a local attorney for two hours to discuss and create their documents, and then Veterans will leave with their documents in hand.

I have attached a flyer about this event, and would love if you would spread the word to Veterans and hang up this flyer at your post. We will

screen the Veterans after they call to ensure they qualify (i.e. their estate cannot be too complex; this program is designed for low-income and/or disabled Vets).

We will ask Vets a series of questions, and can refer them elsewhere in cases where estates are too complex. If a Vet does qualify, they will be given an appointment time and a list of information to bring with them to their appointment on February 28. We appreciate your time and service.

Thank you,
Jenna Jordan
Wills for Warriors Student Coordinator
Center for Excellence in Elder Law
Stetson University College of Law
1401 61st Street South
Gulfport, FL 33707
727.562.7393
727.345.1838 fax
www.law.stetson.edu/elderlaw

ACCESS AND JUSTICE FOR ALL®

Wills for Warriors

Free Simple Wills and/or Health Care Directives for Tampa Bay Area Veterans, spouses or surviving spouses

For information and to make an appointment call 727-562-7577, **no later than February 16th, 2018.**

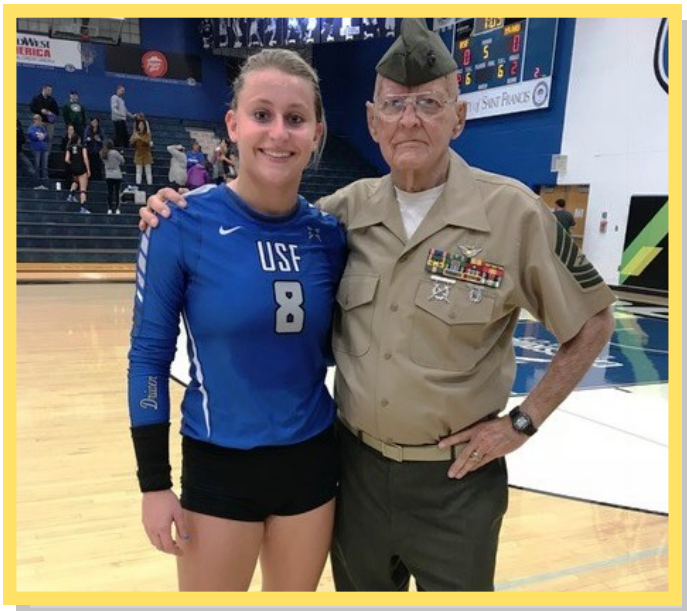
Sponsored by the Community Law Program's volunteer attorneys, the St. Petersburg Bar Foundation & Stetson University College of Law.

Thank you for your service!

STETSON LAW | ST. PETERSBURG BAR FOUNDATION | Community Law Program

Stetson University College of Law, 1401 61st Street, Gulfport, FL 33707 | (727) 562-7577

Top Flick has been heard from.
Top sent 2 photos. Here they are.



Here's Top with his granddaughter Valorie at the season's last game for the University St. Frances Lady Cougars volleyball team.

JD Pate honored in Martial Arts Discipline.



Not long ago one of our members, JD Pate was made Supreme Grand Master-9th Degree Black Belt Chujen of Tai Liu Chuan Fa Association of America. Congratulations to JD for his achievement and we all promise to be very nice.



Top rings the bell. When a chemo patient completes the last therapy protocol session they are permitted to ring the ceremonial bell. Appropriate fanfare then ensues. Semper Fi Top!

