Quarterly Report – 01 Oct 2021 - 31 Dec 2021

During this quarter I have been able to personally attend business meetings and activities of Detachments 060, 063, 756, and 948. Also throughout the quarter I have remained in contact with all the Detachments within the District forwarding all communications from DOF and National to the District Detachment Commandants. During my visits I distributed the DOF MCL Scholarship raffle booklets to the Commandants for FY 22. Also, many Detachment members were inquiring dates and information regarding Spring Conference and National Convention.

During October attended the Department Fall Conference. District 9 had members from all of the 5 Detachments in attendance at some point during the Conference. Following attendance of Fall Conference and PDP, passed on relevant information gained to Detachments.

November attended Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebrations and events for Detachments 60 and 756. Detachment 60 Ball also had in attendance DOF District 4 Vice Commandant Vernon Trice and Mrs. Trice. Both Detachments honored the history and traditions of the Marine Corps and entertained the guests with a great Ball.

Also in November a request from DOF Commandant to attend the interment of MOH recipient Corporal Duane Dewey was received. This was distributed to the Detachment Commandants. As District Vice I attended along with Marines and representatives of District 9, Detachments 60 and 756.

The Detachments in the District remained busy during the months of November and December with Toys 4 Tots and other fund raising and membership activities. Many families had needs met over through the efforts of the Marines, Members and volunteers who worked tirelessly during this season.

District 9 had received email from DOF regarding a social media post of a Marine family in distress. DOF Judge Advocate had discovered and passed word through League Channels. The word arrived in my email and was quickly dispatched to the Detachment nearest the Marine Family. This particular family was already in the process of being assisted in a joint effort of Detachments 756 and 948. These Detachments and Commandants have been working closely together to assist this
family in many ways. I passed on the information of the Injured Warrior Fund of Florida (IWFF) to the Commandant of Detachment 756, who was serving as the primary point of contact. There is a significant need and the Detachments continue to provide assistance as of the date of this report, the family was in the process of gathering all the necessary information to submit the request of assistance to the IWFF. The request should be received in the near future.

In addition to the above, I have received a few other general inquiries regarding the IWFF. I explained the program to those inquiring and provided them information that was received from DOF Paymaster related to the program. In my personal follow-up communications with those individuals, at the time of writing this report, none has expressed an interest to further pursue utilization of the IWFF. Their need has either dissipated or they have received assistance from other sources not requiring vetting.

November/December, I came across conversation threads on a social media page where a Marine in distress was seeking assistance. This Marine appeared very depressed and distraught. I reached out to them to determine their location and what their needs were. The Marine corresponded back and provided their location. I contacted the appropriate District Vice Commandant, who informed me the Detachment Commandant in the area has spoken with the Marine as well. I provided the contact information of the District Vice Commandant nearest the Marine. He was appreciative of the efforts.

A look ahead into the 3rd Quarter of the Fiscal Year appears will be very active. In February, Detachment 60 will host a memorial service/celebration commemorating the Battle of Iwo Jima. Detachment 60 is located in Cape Coral, which is home to one of three original Iwo Jima Monuments created by Felix de Weldon. The Detachment welcomes everyone to attend this annual event.

Respectfully,

John Castle
DVC Dist 9
Dept of FL