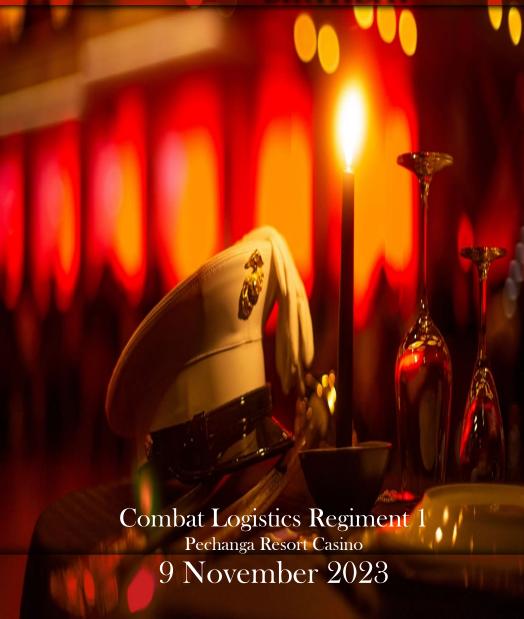
248_{TH}

UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS
BIRTHDAY





Cocktails & Photographs

Invocation

Adjutant's Call

Arrival of Official Party

Presentation of Colors

Cake Cutting

General Lejeune's Birthday Message

Commandant's Birthday Message

Commanding Officer's Remarks

Guest of Honor Remarks

Dinner

Dancing & Photographs





Adjutant Captain Stephen A. Santiago

Narrator Staff Sergeant Brenda N. Toledo

Chaplain Lieutenant Commander Brady A. Rentz

Color Guard

Sergeant Dorian I. Segovia Lance Corporal Isaiah Villa Sergeant Jalyon A. Smith Lance Corporal Carson J. Millsap

Sword Detail

Captain Zachary F. Anderson Second Lieutenant Marco A. DelRealMendoza Gunnery Sergeant Carmelo Sierra Sergeant Jorge G. SantiagoRivera Corporal Emily Y. Sandoval First Lieutenant Brett A. Halterman Gunnery Sergeant Alec N. Roberts Staff Sergeant Dwight A. Patterson Corporal Gerardo Escobedolobatos Corporal Yerika N. ZayasBonilla

Cake Escorts

Corporal Mitchell D. Spencer Lance Corporal Xul M. Olson Petty Officer Third Class Myles J. McGrath Private First Class Zaire Robertson

Oldest Marine Colonel Prescott N. Wilson

Youngest Marine Private First Class Jakquelyn L. Weist





GENERAL LEJEUNE'S BIRTHDAY MESSAGE

On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of the Continental Congress. Since that date many thousand men have borne the name Marine. In memory of them it is fitting that we who are Marines should commemorate the birthday of our Corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.

The record of our Corps is one, which will bear comparison with that of the most famous military organizations in the world's history. During 90 of the 167 years of its existence the Marine Corps has been in action against the Nation's foes. From the battle of Trenton to the Argonne, Marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquility at home generation after generation of Marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres, and in every corner of the seven seas, that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.

In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our Corps Marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term "Marine" has come to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue.

This high name of distinction and soldierly repute we who are Marines today have received from those who preceded us in the corps. With it we also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our Corps from generation to generation and has been the distinguishing mark of Marines in every age. So long as that spirit continues to flourish Marines will be found equal to every emergency in the future as they have been in the past, and the men of our Nation will regard us as worthy successors to the long line of illustrious men who have served as "Soldiers of the Sea" since the founding of the Corps.

John Lejeune Lieutenant General U.S. Marine Corps





COMMANDANT'S BIRTHDAY MESSAGE

For 248 years, Marines have earned a reputation as the most disciplined and lethal warfighters in the world. This legacy of honor, courage, and commitment passed on to us was paid for in sweat, blood, and sacrifice. From Belleau Wood to Inchon and Tarawa to Sangin, Marines have stepped forward to defend our Constitution when others either could not or would not. Our history is filled with heroes like Chief Warrant Officer 4 Hershel "Woody" Williams, Private First Class Hector Cafferata Jr., Sergeant Major Dan Daly, and thousands of others who performed acts of bravery which went unseen in the heat of battle. We stand on the shoulders of these Marines, and we owe it to them to earn our title "Marine" each and every day.

Marines have given, and have been willing to give, their lives for Country and Corps in every fight our Nation has entered. Our actions turned back the tide of tyranny in Europe during the Great War, defeated fascism in Asia during World War II, fought for democracy in Korea and Vietnam, and offered the hope of self-determination in the Middle East. We go to war whenever our Nation calls, and in the interwar periods we train, we prepare, and we innovate. We have chosen a life of service and sacrifice — an honorable life that has meaning. We sacrifice so our fellow citizens don't have to, and we seek nothing in return but a chance to be first to fight. Most will never understand why we choose to attack when others do not, why we revel in being covered in mud, why we snap to attention when "The Marines' Hymn" is played, or why we say, "Ooh Rah." We understand it, and this message is for us, for the Marines.

As Marines, we live on a war footing because someone must. This means that we ruthlessly adhere to our standards of excellence — Marine standards — as we know this will best prepare us for the wars of the future. Our high standards are a prerequisite of professional warfighting, and how we keep our honor clean in the cauldron of combat. They prepare us for the most difficult mission there is: fighting from and returning to the sea. Most importantly they shape our unique Marine culture which is respected at home and across the globe.

Sergeant Major Ruiz and I are proud of all that you have done this past year to protect and enhance our reputation as America's best warriors. We hope you know that we will be with you every step of the way as we prepare for the fights ahead. We ask that every Marine - active, reserve, and veteran - honor the legacy of those who went before us by continuing to uphold our high standards.

Protect your fellow Marines and our shared legacy. Happy Birthday Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

General, U.S. Marine Corps Commandant of the Marine Corps



Sergeant Major, USMC (Retired) Stennett W. Rey II



Born and raised in Queens, New York, Sergeant Major Rey enlisted in the Marine Corps in July 1994 and reported for recruit training at MCRD Paris Island in October of 1994. After recruit training he received orders to aviation electrician school in Millington Tennessee. Upon completion of "A" school, he received

orders to Ft. Huachuca Arizona, for training as an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Technician. Upon graduation he received orders to VMU-2 MCAS Cherry Point North Carolina. Sergeant Rey served at VMU-2 from July 1996–December 1999. During this time he deployed twice to Bosnia ISO Operation Joint Endeavor and Operation Joint Guard. He served in numerous billets to include, Night Crew Supervisor, Collateral Duty Inspector, and Avionics Chief. In December of 1999 Sergeant Rey transferred to the Active Reserve program, and received orders to I-I MAG-46 DET A, for duty and retraining as an Avionics Tech on UH-1N/AH-1W aircraft. He served in numerous billets to include, Avionics Tech, Avionics NCOIC, and Maintenance Controller. In January of 2003 Staff Sergeant Rey volunteered for recruiting duty. He attended Recruiters school and upon graduation was assigned to RS San Diego, 12th MCD. His billets on recruiting included Canvassing Recruiter and Site SNCOIC.

In January of 2006, Gunnery Sergeant Rey received orders to HMLA-775 for duty as an Avionics Tech. Upon arrival he was assigned as the Maintenance Control SNCOIC. In May of 2006, Gunnery Sergeant Rey received orders to HMLA-367, and served as the Maintenance/Material Control Division Chief. He deployed with the squadron ISO OIF from October 2006-April 2007. In December of 2007 Gunnery Sergeant Rey was selected to First Sergeant. In June of 2008 Gunnery Sergeant Rey was frocked to First Sergeant and received orders to 4th Marine Regiment, 3DMARDIV, Okinawa Japan. During his assignment, he served as the Headquarters Company First Sergeant, acting Camp Sergeant Major, and RBE SgtMaj. He deployed as the Senior Enlisted Advisor of an Embedded Training Team advising an Afghan Infantry battalion ISO OEF from March 2010-December 2010. February 2011 First Sergeant Rey reported for duty at 7th ESB, 1st MLG. His billets while assigned were 7th ESB (RBE) SgtMaj, and Engineer Support Company First Sergeant.

June 2012 First Sergeant Rey received PCA orders to 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st MLG. His billets while assigned were H&S Company 1stSgt and Battalion SgtMaj. February 2014 Sergeant Major Rey reported for duty as the SgtMaj of 5th ANGLICO, III MHG. December 2016 Sergeant Major Rey reported for duty as the SgtMaj of 7th ESB. February 2018 Sergeant Major reported for duty as the SgtMaj of CLR-15. In April 2020, Sergeant Major Rey reported to his final duty assignment as SgtMaj, 1st MLG. In September 2023, SgtMaj Rey retired from the Marine Corps after 29 years of honorable service.

SgtMaj Rey's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal third award, Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal fifth award, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal third award, and the Combat Action Ribbon. Authorized to wear the basic airborne insignia.

MARINES' HYMN

From the halls of Montezuma,
to the shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles
in the air, on land, and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
and to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title
of United States Marine.

Our flag's unfurled to every breeze from the dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in every clime and place where we could take a gun;
In the snow of far off northern lands and in sunny tropic scenes;
You will find us always on the job
The United States Marines.

Here's health to you and to our Corps
which we are proud to serve;
In many a strife we've fought for life and
have never lost our nerve;
If the Army and the Navy
ever look on Heaven's scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded by
United States Marines.