

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
BIRTHDAY BALL

249  
YEARS



1ST MEDICAL BATTALION  
PACIFIC VIEWS  
NOVEMBER 7, 2024



## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

*Cocktails & Photographs*

*(1800 – 1900)*

*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*

*(2030 – 2330)*





# CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS

## ***Adjutant***

*First Lieutenant Mitchell J. West*

## ***Narrator***

*Lance Corporal Christopher E. Martinez*

## ***Chaplain***

*Lieutenant Ross Engel*

## ***Color Guard***

*Sergeant Westin L. Nascene*

*Corporal Romano M. Khai*

*Petty Officer Third Class Jeremy K. Lherisson*

*Petty Officer Third Class Bianca Arias*

## ***Sword Detail***

*First Lieutenant Erin E. McNamara*

*Second Lieutenant Jun Iramina*

*Staff Sergeant Leon E. Brown*

*Staff Sergeant Joshua Munoz*

*Sergeant Veronica M. Ochoa*

*Sergeant Emerson W. Alas*

*Corporal Christian A. Lopez*

*Corporal Rafael SotoGarza*

## ***Cake Escorts***

*Lance Corporal Thandat Le*

*Lance Corporal Jonathan Roman*

*Lance Corporal Jaime L. Lopez*

*Lance Corporal Caramel B. Gonzales*





## 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





## ***Oldest Marine***

*Gunnery Sergeant Candido Medina*

*MOS: 3537*

*Enlisted Date: 25 August 2005*

*Years of Service: 19 Years*



## ***Youngest Marine***

*Lance Corporal Jakquelyn L. Weist*

*MOS: 3531*

*Enlisted Date: 12 December 2022*

*Years of Service: 1 Year*





Sergeant Major, USMC (Retired)  
Jim Harkins

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*Sergeant Major Jim Harkins enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve, 4th Tank Battalion in July 1959. Upon graduation from Mission Bay High School, he reported to Golf Co., 2nd Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment. He was promoted meritoriously to private first class upon graduation and opted to go on active duty. He reported to the Infantry Training Regiment for additional training before assignment to Golf Co., 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division. He participated in the Marine Corps infantry squad competition, placing third and was meritoriously promoted to Lance Corporal. His battalion was reassigned to the 3rd Marine Division, located in Japan, and his company designated Charlie company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. During this tour Harkins was promoted to Corporal. Upon completion of his tour, Corporal Harkins reported to Camp Pendleton, California assigned as the turnkey for the brig. Promoted to Sergeant, he reported to Fox company, Marine Security Guard Battalion for duty with the Department of State. Sergeant Harkins served at the American Embassies in Algiers, Algeria, Monrovia, and Liberia, during this tour.*

*After 30 months on embassy duty, now Staff Sergeant Harkins was assigned as the S-4 operations chief, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division. He then received orders to the Republic of Vietnam where he served as a platoon commander in Hotel Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. Reassigned to the G-2 section, 1st Marine Division, he participated in numerous intelligence gathering operations for the remainder of his tour in Vietnam.*

*Staff Sergeant Harkins was then assigned to Drill Instructor School, MCRD San Diego, where he graduated first in his class and was awarded a noncommissioned officers sword. Assigned to Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, his work ethic and superior performance helped him to earn meritorious promotion to Gunnery Sergeant.*

*Gunnery Sergeant Harkins was assigned as platoon commander, Motivation Platoon, Special Training Branch for the remainder of his*



*tour. Upon successful completion of drill instructor duty, he reported to Landing Force Training Command Pacific. As an infantry skills instructor, he traveled extensively throughout the western Pacific training Marines and Sailors. His next assignment was a tour as the Gunnery Sergeant for Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, Japan.*

*Gunnery Sergeant Harkins then returned for a tour with Fox Company, Marine Security Guard Battalion. He was assigned as the noncommissioned officer in charge, American Consul General, Calcutta, India, for three years and then the American embassy, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.*

*Promoted to First Sergeant, he was assigned to India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division and then Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines. First Sergeant Harkins was then assigned as the First Sergeant, Marine Detachment, USS Ranger, where he served with Major Jan Huly, the Detachment Commander. Selected for Sergeant Major, he reported to 1st Amtrac Battalion, 1st Marine Division. Follow on assignments as Sergeant Major included tours with the Infantry Training School, Camp Pendleton and assignment with the Inspector General's Office, 1st Marine Division. Sergeant Major Harkins retired in August 1985 after 26 years of service.*

*His personal decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Sergeant Major Harkins is a native of San Diego, California. He has two sons, Steve, and Jonathan, and three grandchildren, Tylor, Amber, and Christian.*



# ANCHORS AWEIGH



*Stand Navy out to sea,  
Fight our battle cry;  
We'll never change our course,  
So vicious foe steer shy-y-y-y.  
Roll out the TNT,  
Anchors Aweigh.  
Sail on to victory  
And sink their bones to Davy Jones, hooray!*

*Anchors Aweigh, my boys,  
Anchors Aweigh.  
Farewell to foreign shores,  
We sail at break of day-ay-ay-ay.  
Through our last night ashore,  
Drink to the foam,  
Until we meet once more.  
Here's wishing you a happy voyage home.*

*Blue of the mighty deep:  
Gold of God's great sun.  
Let these our colors be  
Till all of time be done, done, done, done.  
On seven seas we learn  
Navy's stern call:  
Faith, courage, service true,  
With honor, over honor, over all.*





# 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.*

