

VOLUME IX  
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Journal of the Marine Corps Distinguished Shooters Association

the **BADGE**

## MARINE CORPS DISTINGUISHED SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION (MCDSA)

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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Hello fellow Distinguished Shooters,

I can't tell you what an honor it is for me to serve as your President, and I hope I haven't disappointed. I don't have to tell you how the past couple of years have put a damper on all of our lifestyles. But one of the best parts of this opportunity is that I get to speak with some of the greatest, and most colorful marksmen and women in the world. Some of the finer generation of shooters would love to attend our Reunions/Cookouts but have difficulty traveling at the ripe old ages of 88, 90, and 94. Many of these conversations are spurred on by the emails I send out announcing our events.

Bob Maguire recently called and asked me to please pass along his sincere apologies to everyone that he couldn't attend to share in some of the storytelling. Fortunately, I get to laugh along when the stories are shared with me.

Regarding membership, if you are an Annual Member, and it's been a while since you can remember sending in a check to renew your Marine Corps Distinguished Shooters Association (MCDSA) annual membership, your membership most likely has lapsed. As a reminder, annual memberships expire on 31 December every year. It sure would help to keep our association financially solvent if you would either bring your dues up-to-date, or upgrade and become a Life Member.

We do not want to lose track of any of our members, and your active membership will keep you abreast of all our activities, to include our annual Reunion/Cookouts, Banquets, Badge newsletters, the MCDSA Membership Directories (published every two years) and update pages (in between years) now being provided to all members in good standing.

Life membership is only \$100.00 if you have attained the age of 50 years, or \$150.00 if you have not yet reached that milestone. According to our Constitution and By-laws, life memberships can also be broken down into four payments during the year. Upon upgrading to a life membership, we will send you a package including a welcome letter and your MCDSA Life Member sticker.

The preferred method of payment is by check or money order. You can mail your payment to: MCDSA, PO Box 134, Quantico, VA 22134. Payment is also available via PayPal at [paymentprocessing.mcDSA@gmail.com](mailto:paymentprocessing.mcDSA@gmail.com). If payment is made via PayPal, please send me an email so we can process your membership quickly.

One more thing, your Board of Governors' election ballot is also included in this issue of the Badge that you either picked up at the Reunion/Cookout (to save postage), or that is being mailed to all active members.



Please complete the ballot as per the instructions and mail it back. We ask that all ballots be returned NLT 1 May 2023. Which brings me to another subject...if any of your information has changed, such as your email, your address, or phone numbers - or if you know of one of your fellow Distinguished member's information that has changed - please let us know, so we can update our data base.

The last thing I'd like to share is this...if you haven't yet, I would encourage you to visit our website at [www.marinedsa.com](http://www.marinedsa.com) or [www.marinedsa.org](http://www.marinedsa.org) for more information, and to view the many photos of our past events, among other things, that may be of interest to you.

Semper Fi,

Daniel E. Burke, Sr.  
MGySgt, USMC (Ret.)  
President, MCDSA  
[b12daniel@aol.com](mailto:b12daniel@aol.com)  
540-287-3833

## SCOOP ON SCOUT SNIPER PROGRAM (SAY THAT 3 TIMES)

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CoffeeorDie.com has some big scoop on the Scout Sniper program and its future. See the full article at [Coffee or Die Magazine](http://CoffeeorDie.com) | [With One Shot, Marine Brass Kill Legendary Scout Sniper Program](http://CoffeeorDie.com).

With one shot from a fleetwide message, the Marine Corps brass killed off the service's program for making and deploying legendarily lethal snipers. A Feb. 23 blueprint detailing the "immediate" shift of 18-Marine sniper platoons into units with 26 scouts was provided to Coffee or Die, and it includes "zero allocated seats" for the sniper basic course in 2024.

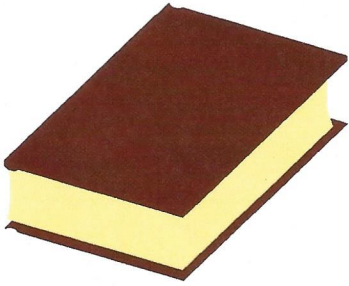
That seemed to differ from an email from the U.S. Marine Corps' Training Command on Feb. 8 that assured Coffee or Die its leaders had "not received any formal requirement or task to modify the curriculum." "Should the decision be made to modernize that specific aspect of the training continuum, it will be based on a fleet requirement that is validated through Headquarters Marine Corps," TECOM said in a prepared statement.

Marines in 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, conduct a live-fire sniper range on Camp Schwab, Okinawa, Japan.



## RED BOOK UPDATE

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Red book Volume I (reprints) and Volume II are available now. We currently have over 1415 Volume II and 134 Volume I reprints available. You can order both volumes of "Marine Corps Competitive Marksmanship (aka, The Red Book)." If you would like to order one, or a set of Vol I and Vol II, please send \$24.95 (Plus \$5.00 S&H) for each book to MCDSA, P.O. Box 134, Quantico, VA 22134. Non-member prices are \$29.95 (Plus \$5.00 S&H) per book.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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As of this date, we have 277 life members, 30 annual members (of which 26 are in arrears), 18 honorary and 12 Auxiliary. We also have 108 deceased members documented and updated in our Directory. If you are an annual member of MCDSA, it is time to renew for another year or upgrade to a Life Membership. As President Danny Burke says, "Once you go Distinguished, you are Distinguished for Life, so you should be a Life Member." The Annual rate is \$15 for one year or you can upgrade to a Life Membership for \$150 if you are age 17-49; \$100 for age 50+.

## IN MEMORIAM

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The Marine Corps Distinguished Shooters Association (MCDSA) wishes to extend heartfelt sympathy to the loved ones and friends of our fallen comrades. We will post those who **have passed away or we have just been notified of passing away since the last issue of the Badge**. Please contact us if we have missed anyone.

Boyd, Judith – Judy Boyd passed away on February 27, 2023. [Judith Boyd Obituary \(tributearchive.com\)](https://www.tributearchive.com/obituary/Judith-Boyd).

Connor, CWO4 Greg  
Drennan Jr., LtCol Larry T.  
Driggers Sr., CWO4 Samuel E.  
Dunham, MGySgt Mel E.  
Embesi, CWO4 Robert D.  
Hall, SgtMaj Billy C.  
Hughes, Maj John A.  
Keller, James L.  
Manning, Capt Earl  
Nagazyna, CWO4 John K.  
Pitts, GySgt Sherman E.  
Scoggins, MSgt Lewie T.



## MCDSA FRATERNAL ITEMS

Some of the ways you can show your pride of membership in the MCDSA are through the purchase of authorized challenge coins, distinguished pins, decals, shirts and pens. A few of these items are described below. They are available for purchase by contacting Dexter Conrad, 540-455-9047, [dexcon45@gmail.com](mailto:dexcon45@gmail.com).



Distinguished  
Marksman  
Small Fixed Pin  
**\$15**



Distinguished  
Pistol Shot  
Small Fixed Pin  
**\$15**



Distinguished  
Marksman  
Hanging Pin  
**\$17**



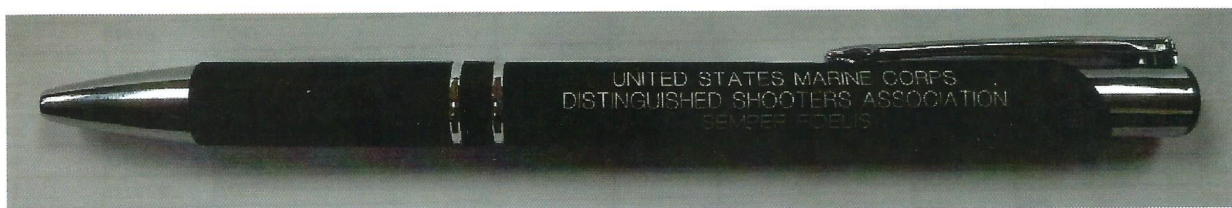
Distinguished  
Pistol Shot  
Hanging Pin  
**\$17**



Double Distinguished  
Hanging Bar Pin  
**\$30**



Challenge  
Coins  
**\$10**



**\$3 each**



**\$15**



**Decals - Life or Member available - \$5**

We also still have the blue chambray-style shirts and other custom items for ordering. The address is below.

Lynn Rinniger  
Gourmet Garments  
1219 Belleflower Avenue SW  
Canton, Ohio 44710  
Phone 330-806-7559  
Email: [Gourmetgarments@consultant.com](mailto:Gourmetgarments@consultant.com)  
Website: [gourmetgarments.com](http://gourmetgarments.com)



# BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

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Dear Voting Member,

As I'm sure you are aware, managing an all-volunteer association can be a big challenge, and to best serve the interests of any organization, there must be proactive leadership, to include a President, and an active and dedicated Board of Governors. If you want the Marine Corps Distinguished Shooters Association to grow and represent your interests, YOU/WE must elect those candidates who will play an active role, while exercising sound judgement. Each candidate on the ballot has been contacted and has assured us that they will act on your behalf to guide our association into the future.

You have received in this issue of the Badge, or soon will be receiving a ballot along with the Spring 2023 Directory Update Sheet. Please consider each candidate carefully, then mark your ballot and return it to be counted ASAP. Do not vote for more than nine (9) candidates. If you do, your ballot will be invalid. Ballots should be received by 1 May 2023, so the Nominating Committee can compile the votes. The elected candidates will be notified, and the results will be posted on our website [www.marinedsa.org](http://www.marinedsa.org) or [www.marinedsa.com](http://www.marinedsa.com).

I would also encourage you to visit our website. Anne Joseph, with the tutelage of Leo Cebula has made great strides rebuilding our website into a very user-friendly site you can easily navigate. It contains photos, articles, information, and useful links that you can spend hours enjoying.

Semper Fidelis,

Daniel E. Burke, Sr.  
MGySgt, USMC (Ret.)  
President, MCDSA  
[b12daniel@aol.com](mailto:b12daniel@aol.com)  
540-287-3833



# BOARD OF GOVERNORS BALLOT

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- Detach the ballot, fill it out, fold it and tape three (3) sides. Add postage, a Forever stamp and mail by USPS.
- Vote for up to nine (9) members. Please do not vote for more than 9 members as that will invalidate the ballot.
- This ballot must be received by 1 May 2023 to be counted.

\_\_\_\_\_ GySgt Raymond Bailey

\_\_\_\_\_ MGySgt Daniel E. Burke

\_\_\_\_\_ SSgt Daniel R. Duitsman

\_\_\_\_\_ MGySgt Harry D. Harrison

\_\_\_\_\_ MSgt Donald L. Heuman

\_\_\_\_\_ Capt Mike B. Mitchell

\_\_\_\_\_ GySgt Jose R. Moreno

\_\_\_\_\_ GySgt Nelson Ocasio

\_\_\_\_\_ GySgt Jim D. Otto

\_\_\_\_\_ CWO3 Phillip "Gene" Rucks, Jr.

\_\_\_\_\_ GySgt Martin C. Sprick

\_\_\_\_\_ MSgt Julia Watson-Carlson

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Marine Corps Distinguished Shooters Assoc  
PO Box 134  
Quantico, VA 22134