

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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AWXFILL & G. I.Y.



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR

The Young Marines National Foundation continues to grow and build partnerships. Many of those partnerships are from organizations and individuals who may have never heard of the Young Marines but are inspired by the ethos that set our young members apart from the others. While they might have been born into the "me" generation, they have learned at an early stage that taking care of one-another and working as a team yields a far superior outcome.

A new video production, *Tomorrow's Leaders*, is a snapshot of why we must ensure that the Young Marines, a national youth organization, remains solvent at all costs. The documentary reveals two key components that serve as the foundation for what this program is all about and the young members who make up its core. The first element is the respect they have exhibited over the years to those who have worn the cloth of our country. Central in this is the work they perform every August 14th to recognize the contributions of the Navajo Code Talkers. By the hundreds they show up at Window Rock Arizona to pay homage to those who were so critical to the success of our Pacific campaign. Additionally, they were the first organization called upon to assist in the December 7th inaugural parade through downtown Honolulu to commemorate the attack on Pearl Harbor at the annual Remembrance Day celebration. And finally, those select few who are chosen to make the annual trip to Iwo Jima to accompany the veterans and their families.

The second piece of the film focuses on the kids themselves; what they have learned and how the program has prepared them for the challenges they will face once they "age out" of the program. For most it gave them a degree of confidence that they otherwise would not have had. The program gave them self-respect and, more importantly, respect for others.

The Foundation remains committed to our mission of raising funds so that the kids don't have to worry about whether they can afford to participate in a Young Marines activity.

Last year we started the "Roses Campaign." This campaign is designed to provide the Young Marines with roses to place on the gravesites of the veterans in cemeteries across the country without having to raise the funds themselves to make this important tribute occur. Memorial Day to our kids is not just another holiday on the calendar, but rather a day to reflect on and show our respect for our fallen heroes.

We would like to thank GEICO Military and Fred and Diane Smith for their generous contributions in helping us "Strengthen the lives of America's youth."

Very Respectfully,

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MICHAEL B. KESSLER USMC (RET) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMERITUS – CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



A MESSAGE FROM OUR NATIONAL **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

In the summer of 2012, I was introduced to the Young Marines by then–Executive Director Mike Kessler. As a fellow Marine, I knew Mike's stellar reputation and was eager to hear about the organization. I learned about the mechanics of the program as well as the volunteers and staff, but what struck me most were the stories of lives changed by leadership lessons learned, services rendered, events, and adventures of the kids in the program. I heard about young people dedicating their lives to serving their country; honoring veterans; and living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

Over the past 8 years, I have worked with Mike and the Foundation's board of directors to raise funds so that the efforts of the Young Marines will continue for the next 50 years and beyond. Sadly, I have learned that not everyone shares our concern for kids, the need for leadership, or commitment to drug-free communities. Fortunately, I have also found that people who do share our values—the ones reading this message—care very deeply and are willing to take a stand to defend their beliefs. To you, I say thank you; we will continue to work together to teach kids leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork, respect, and healthy habits. We will continue to preserve a place where future leaders come together to learn to be better citizens and to build better communities.

Thank you for your participation in the Young Marines National Foundation; by contributing, you are securing a better future for us all.

Very Respectfully,

Michael Fulf

MICHAEL W. ZELIFF USMC (RET) NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE YOUNG MARINES NATIONAL FOUNDATION



THE YOUNG MARINES IN 60 SECONDS

The Young Marines is a nonprofit youth services and education program for boys and girls 8 years of age through the completion of high school. Ours is a program built on structure and discipline involving approximately 8,500 Young Marines in more than 250 units in 38 states and Okinawa, Japan. They are supported by approximately 2,500 unpaid adult volunteers.

The Young Marines promotes leadership, teamwork, and discipline by teaching our youth what it means to be responsible citizens, to step up and take charge when nobody else will, and to accept responsibility for your actions. Our SPACES (the Summer Program of Adventures, Challenges, Encampments, and Schools) program provides Young Marines with the opportunity to attend numerous leadership schools and programs around our great nation.

We remind our members of the sacrifices America's veterans have

made in service to our country.

To that end, we continue to honor their contributions and have won a Telly Award for our documentary, "Generations of Honor," where we showcase what we do with and for our veterans. In this documentary, we highlight our work with the Navajo Code Talkers; make an annual trip to Guam and Iwo Jima with the veterans and families of those campaigns; and, finally, lead the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Parade through downtown Honolulu. We are the only youth program to have lain a memorial stone at the National Cemetery of the Pacific. We strive to fulfill our sacred obligations to honor our veterans who have sacrificed so much so that we can live free.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO **OUR SUPPORTERS**

Thank you to our generous supporters of the Young Marines National Foundation. Every dollar ensures that the Young Marines can continue to build a national network of engaged and empowered youth, something we have done successfully for 60 years. Charitable support enables the National Foundation to help build a legacy of honor, discipline, and leadership through honoring our veterans, drug-demand reduction programs, leadership training, and community service throughout the year.

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

- CONNECT WITH 280+ UNITS AND TENS OF THOUSANDS OF ALUMNI NATIONALLY
- BUILD MORE THAN 9,000 CONFIDENT, SELF-AWARE KIDS AND PREPARE THEM WITH DISCIPLINE, LEADERSHIP, AND TEAMWORK!
- RECEIVE 10 FULCRUM SHIELD AWARDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR "CLOSING THE GATE ON DRUGS" PROGRAMS
- ALLOW HUNDREDS OF YOUNG MARINES TO PARTICIPATE IN 5+ LEADERSHIP AND ADVENTURE PROGRAMS
- JOIN TOGETHER 2,500+ VETERANS AND VOLUNTEERS TO DRIVE EVENTS
- SEE YOUNG MARINES PLACE MORE THAN 10,000 ROSES ON VETERAN GRAVESITES ACROSS 14 CITIES IN 8 STATES
- ENABLE COUNTLESS COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES AND 3 ANNUAL TRIPS FOR VETERANS' APPRECIATION

2019 DONOR HONOR ROLL

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 DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
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- MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NEW ENGLAND DIVISION
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- DAWN RUTKOSKI WHITELAW
- ANGELINA SALINAS
- DAVID SIMPSON
- YILIANIS SOSA
- KENNETH STERLING
- JEFFREY THRALL
- MARGARITA VALDEZ
- NICOLE VIERA
- FRANCIS VISCO
- KATHY WHITE
- RUSSELL YOUNG
- GADIEL ZARAGOZA

A UNIT'S SECOND FULCRUM SHIELD AWARD, AND OUR **PROGRAM'S TENTH**

BY YM/GYSGT JORDYN WEBB MIAMI VALLEY (OH)

On 19 October, during the Miami Valley Young Marines Birthday Ball, we were able to celebrate an exciting achievement of earning our second Fulcrum Shield award. It was very rewarding getting to share this experience with my fellow Young Marines, Adult Volunteers, and community supporters who worked so diligently through the past few years to earn them.

Just two days prior, I had the honor of receiving this award on stage in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon alongside the National Director, Deputy Director, the Young Marine of the Year as well as several other Young Marines who attended to perform the Color Guard. This was a very fun and exciting experience, but not quite as rewarding as getting to share the award with my fellow Young Marines back home.

For those of you who may not be familiar with it, the Fulcrum Shield Award is given annually by the Department of Defense and recognizes military-affiliated organization "for excellence in youth drug demand reduction." We won it one year because of our "Closing the Gate on Drugs" initiative.

This marks the tenth time that the Young Marines program has won the award since its creation in 2001, where our organization was the first-ever recipient. I urge other Young Marines to help keep this torch going and help your unit earn number 11!



IN TEXAS, SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES DISCUSS CHOICES WITH YOUNG MARINES



BY YM/DINA DILLON, UNIT COMMANDER Guadalupe Valley (TX)

Guadalupe County (TX) Sheriff's Deputies, A. Peyton and E. Reamer, came and spoke to our unit regarding the choices that we make now and the consequences they have on our future.

They gave us examples personally of their past decisions affecting their lives now and how they have seen young people make bad choices that have affected their current situation.

One example was a young man who had just graduated from high school. He went to a party with college friends, he smoked pot for the first time and the marijuana was laced with a synthetic substance. That one choice has given him "mental episodes" that have changed his life completely.

Deputy Peyton explained, the first time she encountered this young man he was walking down the street naked in 36 degree weather. Fortunately she detained him, located his family and was told what had happened a year earlier. The Deputy checked in with him a month later and he was a completely different person.

He explained that the one time he smoked marijuana completely changed his life and that night she found him he was ready to commit suicide, that he couldn't take these "episodes" any longer. He further explained he can no longer become a policeman, or even hold down a job permanently, because he doesn't know when he will have an episode. During an episode he becomes very irritated, his body temperature goes up, he also goes into heavy depression- just a complete yoyo of emotions that last from a few days to a few weeks.

Both Deputies reiterated about the choices you make now as a young person can make all the difference as adults, and to focus on your goals and don't let anyone pull you into their negative situation.

MIAMI VALLEY YM: WEASSISTED IN TORNADO RELEFEEFORTS

BY YM/LCPL KAYLEE MILLER

MIAMI VALLEY (OH)

I'm here to tell you about my experience with the 2019 tornadoes that hit Ohio on Memorial Day weekend. Sharing my experience were my fellow Young Marines YM/IstSgt John Sollinger, YM/LCpl Emmalee Waldron, and YM/PFC Brayden Miller (my brother) who teamed up with a local company called One Call Now on June 4th to help.

A total of 15 tornadoes were reported in our area in just one day (over Memorial Day weekend). The entire state of Ohio usually only sees that many in a whole year.

Our group went to Beaver Creek, Ohio and helped a lady named Joyce with cleaning out her boat. We also helped go through boxes and re-box some things then we went to the basement and cleaned the basement out for her. This made me feel good because I was helping someone whose house was hit by a tornado, which ripped the house apart. It made me feel great going out to help people. When I saw the damage, I was thankful for the opportunity to help someone else.

It made me realize that tornadoes can be deadly and to pay attention when you get the warnings to get to a basement or a place in my house with no windows.

I want to thank our Unit Commander, Mr. Miller, and the One Call Now group for allowing me (and my fellow Young Marines) the opportunity to help.

OLD COLONY YOUNG MARINES ASSIST WITH COLLECTING TOYS FOR ANNUAL TOY DRIVE



BY YM/SGT ANGELINA KELLIHER OLD COLONY (MA)

Young Marines from the Old Colony (MA) Young Marines Unit worked hard over the past few months collecting donations and toys destined for the USMC Reserves' Toys for Tots annual toy drive.

Collection efforts started in October, when YM/Sgt Angelina Kelliher and her sister, YM/LCpl Alannah Kelliher, arranged to have a Toys for Tots drop box placed at their school, the Rising Tides Public Charter School located in Plymouth MA.

The Saturday after Thanksgiving, members of the unit participated in the 2018 Middleborough Christmas Parade. The Young Marines walked alongside the Toys for Tots float, collecting toys and donations from members of the community along the parade route.

In addition to the donation box at the Rising Tides Charter Public School, YM/Sgt Kelliher and YM/ LCpl Alannah Kelliher were able to have the Plymouth County Teachers Federal Credit Union host a Toys for Tots collection drop off box at the PCT



Credit Union location in Wareham, MA. The PCT Credit Union was able to promote the collection drive to its members within Wareham, the surrounding communities and most of Plymouth County.

In December, the unit was invited by the Plymouth Marine Corps League to help in their collection efforts as well at the Plymouth 7th Annual Winter Lights 5K post-race party. As runners finished the race, many dropped off items for Toys for Tots; the Old Colony Young Marines were there to help collect and load toys destined for the Toys for Tots distribution center.

At the conclusion of the toy drive, the Young Marines arranged to have a truck arrive at the Rising Tides Charter Public School location on Friday to collect the donated toys. Through their generous actions, the students and staff at the charter school filled the collection box almost three full times. Both the parents and school administration alike were very pleased by the support for the toy collection. After leaving the Rising Tides location, the Young Marines collection vehicle made its way to the



Plymouth County Teachers Federal Credit Union Toys for Tots collection box in Wareham.

As the Young Marines entered the credit union, employees and members greeted them with big smiles and cheerful hellos. The Kellihers stopped for a few photographs, and then moved on to loading donations. Just as with the charter school's collection point, the credit union members donated an amazing amount to the campaign. Between the two locations, every available space in the pick-up vehicle was used to transport the toys to the Toys for Tots distribution location.

YM/Sgt Kelliher was quoted as saying "We strive to provide hope and a positive impact to child who would otherwise have nothing". YM/ LCpl Kelliher responded to that statement with, "The community did a great job this year, but I know that a child, between newborn to age 15 will go without this year... therefore, I want to do better next year, and I know we can."

TEAM: TOGETHER, EVERYONE ACCOMPLISHES MORE

A Mentor's Encouragment Inspires a Unit Project

BY YM/MGYSGT STEVEN SCHIDRICH PARRIS ISLAND (SC)

The night before I competed at the 3rd Division Young Marine of the Year Board held this past December, I had dinner with my mom and SgtMaj Flowers, my Battalion Commander when my unit was still part of the 2nd Battalion, Ist North Carolina Regiment. He was my Battalion Commander for 5 years.

My unit has been moved to 2nd Battalion, 1st Georgia Regiment. Even though I was no longer in SgtMaj Flowers' Battalion, he still requested to be on the 3rd Division

Young Marine of the Year Board and he traveled more than nine hours just to be there.

At dinner, SgtMaj Flowers told me how he was proud of me, that he would always be there for me and that I've done great things in the Young Marines. He also said that before I leave the Young Marines, I should leave a legacy behind, by helping my Young Marines do great things.

SgtMaj Flowers is an incredible mentor. I took his advice to heart and started thinking of ideas on how I can help the Young Marines in my unit. I decided that I would offer to help the Parris Island Young Marines work towards earning their Conservation ribbon. The Conservation ribbon is a requirement to get promoted to Staff Sergeant; and while some of the Young Marines are new to the program, it's still beneficial for them to start early to complete the requirements to earn this ribbon. Of course, they have to complete some requirements of the ribbon on their own, but there were components that I could help with.

Two options of tasks to complete as part of the ribbon requirements are to build a birdhouse and plant seeds and document the growth of those seeds for a span of three weeks. I received permission from my Unit Commander to ask the Young Marines if they wanted to build the birdhouses and plant seeds since there are other options to choose from. Fifteen Young Marines wanted to build the birdhouses and plant seeds.

I bought and donated all the items required for these two tasks. During drill on Saturday. May 4, 2019, I gave all the Young Marines who attended the items they needed to complete these two tasks. We spent time building the birdhouses. After that, each Young Marine was able to choose if they wanted to plant flower seeds or vegetable seeds and had to determine if their seeds would be grown in the sun or the shade (which affected what type of seeds they planted). After they finished planting their seeds, I made sure to tell them that it is now up to them to take care of their plants and document their growth. The Young Marines seemed to really enjoy these activities.

It was great our unit worked together and assisted one another in completing these tasks. I was reminded that TEAM, stands for Together Everyone Accomplishes More.



THOUGHTS ON THE AMERICAN VALUES OF FREEDOM & INDEPENDENCE

"True freedom is a mental condition that no one can take or give to you" are words from Debasish Mridha. America was formed 244 years ago. From there, all Americans were born with the freedom to achieve whatever they want from life.

All Americans are born with the independence to do whatever they want, whenever and however they desire. I feel American values are very important.

In the past 244 years, we have accomplished something great, creating values. As Americans, we may take this for granted every single day. Imagine being born and already have your future planned out by the government and forced to work for them at low pay.

Imagine not being able to independently speak your mind. Being controlled is not the American way. Even though many countries today struggle with corruption and citizen independence, we as Americans have ours.

The reason for that is a great, rock solid foundation. Our American values of freedom and independence date all the way back to 3000 B.C., when the first civilizations began to sprout in Mesopotamia.

George Washington stated, "Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth." The Founding Fathers of America implemented the values of those ancient civilizations into our Constitution.

Another reason we can have these values is because of the accomplishments of our veterans and first responders. Without our veterans and those who put it all on the line for America, we may have been overrun by an uprising or foreign government. An American to me means being free, not worrying about being treated unfairly based on religion, ethnic background, or political belief. Being an American is being loyal to America and our fellow citizens. To all of you, it is in the interest of America and our communities that we fight to carry on the traditions and values of our great nation.



IN OHIO "SURVIVOR" ENCAMPMENT, YMS OUTWIT, OUTPLAY AND OUTVLAST

BY YM/MGYSGT STEVEN SCHIDRICH Parris Island (SC)

On Friday night, April 26th, the Miami Valley (OH) Young Marines' Survivor Encampment began with selecting teams and some icebreaker games. Team leaders also chose names for their teams: YM/Sgt Slader led The Fighting Mongooses, YM/Sgt Bobo led The Ferocious Dog Pound, and YM/Cpl Wright led The Blue Falcons. Teams were each given colored bandanas to help them proudly rep their team. The evening continued with DDR games to test their knowledge, a game of dodgeball to determine survival items, and finally pizza and free time.

Saturday morning, everyone was out the door by o800 hours for a few games (mostly involving eggs) for breakfast: First place received a carton of eggs, bacon, and a pan to cook in. Second place was awarded a box of Pop Tart bites, while third place was left with just one hardboiled egg for each member.

"THIS WAS A FUN ENCAMPMENT THAT TESTED SURVIVAL SKILLS WHILE STILL LEAVING A LARGE ELEMENT OF FUN."



Once breakfast was distributed, everyone headed into the field and chose their camps for the night. Each team was hard at work constructing their shelters and fire to make their meals. Around 1100 hours, all teams were brought to the field to compete for their lunches in a classic game of kickball.

The fun and friendly competition didn't end there, though. A few hours before dinner, teams competed for snacks. We played a version of Ultimate Frisbee we like to call Ultimate Octopus... using a real octopus. Again, teams earned food rewards based on how they placed.

Rain and cold hit as the day moved forward. For the dinner game, we took it inside and did a little knowledge test with the teams, puzzle games involving rank and jargon. Like the other events, the spoils matched their ranking. At the end of the day, teams were enjoying their winnings, but we still had one more game for them. In pairs, teams competed in a friendly rap battle. They had IO minutes to come up with 4 bars to rap against their opponent in the dessert challenge. Once the time was up, everyone gathered at the staff camp to lay on the heat. The judges were Mr. J. Keegan Miller (our Unit Commander), YM/IstSgt Sollinger, me, of course, and the crowd.

The winning team received all the required items for a smores feast. Second place got one little pie for each member, while the losers of the rap battle left with a single jumbo cinnamon roll to share.

As the night rolled around, everyone returned to their camps to get ready for bed. Once settled and the excitement of the day wore off, the Young Marines curled into their sleeping bags under their makeshift shelters and rested their weary bodies, allowing the sweet abyss to pull them into a slumbering sleep.

This was a fun encampment that tested survival skills while still leaving a large element of fun. The games and rewards can be changed, but I feel that just a survivor encampment (based on the television show) was a great time for all involved, and fairly easy to plan. I urge other Senior Young Marines to get out there and put together an exciting experience of your own for your unit!

2019 NATIONAL YOUNG MARINE OF THE YEAR **YM/SGTMAJ MEGAN LYNCH**

I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve as the 2019-2020 National Young Marine of the Year.

I thank my family, friends, and my unit, Southeast County, for being with me through my whole Young Marine journey. Most importantly, however, I thank Jesus Christ for blessing me with a program that has shaped my character and taught me how to be my best self.

Young Marines, my goal for this year is to inspire as many people as I can to be passionate, positive, and productive. Why only these three P's? These P's helped me through a lot of difficult times and arduous challenges, not only in Young Marines but in life as well.

I encourage everyone to find their passion in all that they do. I encourage you to use this program for your benefit and search for what separates you from everyone else. Allow your passions to inspire you and motivate you to seek your best self.

I'm sure everyone has heard of the "power of positivity," and I'm of the belief that this statement couldn't be truer. Positivity has power. In every and all situations, when things feel impossible, staying positive will give you a sense of confidence and a happier outlook. This positive approach will be contagious to those around you and will have a meaningful impact. Being positive won't always change the circumstance but keeping a positive outlook can change how you handle those challenging circumstances.

Lastly, productivity. This one can be the most difficult in the way that we as people are naturally inclined to be procrastinators or complete a task with only 50% effort. The 17th SgtMaj. of the Marine Corps, Michael P. Barrett, taught us the phrase, "Do everything with excellence." In summary, this means complete your task with 100% effort—in other words, stay productive.

It is amazing how much you can accomplish if you limit an hour of social media scrolling to ten minutes. A good leader should always be hungry for more to accomplish. Remember these three P's—passion, positivity, and productivity—in all that you do, and strive to better yourself and those around you.

Another message I feel is important to share is that all leaders begin as followers. We as a program encourage you to be a leader and study what it means to do so. We give you tips, tricks, and phrases to help you better understand leadership, but even the best leaders started as a follower.

Don't be discouraged if you aren't the leader of your unit or more right off the bat. It takes time to learn your rank and perfect your role in each. People respect a leader who spent time in every position and presents themselves humbly and respectfully to those in charge, as well as to those they are in charge of.

Once you have spent time getting to know the life of a follower, you can better understand how you should act as a leader. Have patience and enjoy your time where you're at!

This coming year is going to be an exciting one for every Young Marine! If you see me, or any of your other Young Marines of the Year, say hi and don't hesitate to ask as many questions as you can. I am personally thrilled to meet and get to know as many Young Marines as I can before the end of my term, and I look forward to this year and all the opportunities that come my way! God Bless!



"I can do all things through Him who gives me strength"

Philippians 4:13

A TRIBUTE TO A MARINE A FRIEND, VOLUNTEER, AND EMPLOYEE



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BY MICHAEL B. KESSLER USMC (RET) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMERITUS - CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On Valentine's Day of this year, the Young Marines lost a long-time member of the Young Marine's family. Mike Guiles passed at a young age leaving behind a loving wife and two sons who idolized their dad. I would also submit that these two apples did not fall far from the tree. I spoke at his service and described Mike as a knucklehead and a visionary. He was impulsive on one hand and detailed on the other. His passion was his boys and wife first and then to a program that he dedicated himself to called the Young Marines. His mentoring created a legacy, of sorts, and one that has been felt by thousands (yes, thousands) of kids. So much "good" happened to the Young Marines on a National scale because Mike put the program and the kids well before himself and a paycheck. That is what we might call selfless devotion to the overall purpose of our mission. Yes, Mike was a knucklehead and every time I think of him, I think of something that makes me smile. Mike was also a dog lover and he had three. Following the memorial service, I went to their home to spend time with the family and could not help but notice how agitated the middle-aged dog was. She was looking for her master. Josh, his son, and I hoisted a Jack Daniels to his dad and then, with Nick, his other son, enjoyed a cigar on the deck on a cold, crystal clear, star filled night. The only thing missing was Mike.

Rest in Peace, Mike. Semper Fi.







YOUNG MARINES PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR Fallen heroes with 10,000 roses

On May 27, 2019, Young Marines units across the nation placed more than 10,000 roses on the graves of our fallen heroes. Our Memorial Day Flowers tribute brought together people from local communities to honor their heroes and the sacrifices they and their families made for our country. Fourteen Young Marines units in eight states placed 10,250 roses.

Our newest unit, the Bomb City Young Marines had been active for only three months, yet they placed 1,500 roses on the headstones of interred veterans at Llano Cemetery in Amarillo, TX.

Families and friends from all across the U.S. gathered to pay their respect and expressed their deep appreciation and gratitude to the Young Marines National Foundation for honoring those who had served and gone before us.

Efforts like this help our Young Marines build character and become engaged citizens while providing the opportunity to share our values and beliefs with all who attended. The response was, and still is, simply amazing.

Our inaugural Rose Campaign would not have been possible without support from our community of sponsors, adult volunteers, Young Marines, parents, alumni, and friends.

Keeping with tradition, the Rose Campaign is currently scheduled for Memorial Day 2020. But, the safety of our Young Marines is our top priority, so we will be monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and will adjust our timing and format to adhere to CDC guidance.

YOUNG MARINES UNIT	UNIT LOCATION	CEMETERIES
Bomb City Young Marines	Amarillo, TX	Llano Cemetery
Col. Wesley Fox	Sterling, VA	Arlington National Cemetery
Etowah Valley Unit	Cartersville, GA	Oak Hill in Cartersville
Excelsior High Desert Young Marines	Victorville, CA	Desert View Memorial Park
Golden Gate Young Marines	Hayward, CA	SF National Cemetery at the Presidio
Jimmie Dyess - Young Marines of Augusta	Grovetown, GA	Bellevue Memorial Gardens
Lake County Young Marines	Libertyville, IL	Highland Memorial Cemetery
Mojave Vipers Young Marines	Palms, CA	29 Palms Cemetery
Naples Young Marines	Naples, FL	Hodges Memorial Cemetery
Parris Island Young Marines	Parris Island, SC	Beaufort National Cemetery
Quantico Young Marines	Triangle, VA	Quantico National Cemetery
San Bernardino Valley Young Marines	Rialto, CA	Various
South Jersey Young Marines	Cumberland County, NJ	Harleigh Cemetery in Camden, NJ
Young Marines of North Central Florida	Branford, FL	Oak Grove Cemetery



FORMER YOUNG MARINES, NOW SERVING IN U.S. MARINE CORPS

BY YM/MSGT MADYSEN MYERS Westmoreland County (PA)

"Once a Marine, Always a Marine" is now a phrase many former Young Marines have been living by. During 2018, the Westmoreland County (PA) Young Marines have had three Young Marines enlist in the USMC following high school graduation.

The Marines are LCpl Shyanne Davis, PFC Jordan James, and PFC Austin Roolf. Each one attributes part of their success in boot camp at Parris Island, SC to the training that they received during their tenure with the Young Marines.

A little bit of information about each Marine and their contributions as a Young Marine: First, USMC LCpl Davis graduated from boot camp in April, and in her six years in the program rose to the rank of YM/Sgt. She was an avid recruit teacher and helper. One of her favorite things to do was to teach facing movements, this skill helped her excel in her high school band color guard. She graduated from National Senior Leadership Academy in Camp Rilea, OR and continued to focus on teaching drill until her graduation.

Next is PFC Jordan James, former YM/SgtMaj, who graduated from

boot camp in September. Many of you might remember that he was the Division I Young Marine of the Year for the year of 2017-2018.

During his ten years as a Young Marine, he led and motivated the younger Young Marines through example.

He was a positive role model for many Young Marines throughout the division as well as the entire program. When he was in the program he took advantage of many opportunities and attended Advanced Leadership Academy, Scuba School, National Outdoor Leadership School, National Outdoor Leadership School, along with Iwo Jima, Guam, Pearl Harbor and National Navajo Code Talkers Day as part of the duties as a Division Young Marine of the Year.

He made many lasting contributions to the program and taught many Young Marines that look up to him.

Finally, PFC Roolf, USMC, who retired from the program as a YM/ MSgt. and graduated boot camp in October. While in the program, he attended National Advanced Leadership Academy and National Outdoor Leadership Academy. He dedicated 9 years to the program and was very active within the program, with a focus on community service and helping others, no matter their age or their size or rank.

He is a thoughtful person with a strong religious base who has a keen ability to lead.

All three of these Marines made an impact on our unit through their dedication and leadership.

They never focused on themselves, but solely focused their efforts on guiding, leading and motivating other Young Marines to do their best.

These three former Young Marines have a very special place in our hearts and with all of their skills, we know that they will go far in the United States Marine Corps!

A VETERANS DAY SPEECH to honor the past, present and future

BY YM/LCPL GERALD GUTHRIE MIDDLE GEORGIA (GA)

I had the pleasure of escorting Mr. Jim Berres at my school, Huntington Middle School, here in Warner Robins, Georgia for a Veteran's Day Program. Warner Robins (located near Atlanta) is considered a military town due, to Robins Air Force Base which is home to approximately 300,000 military members. Mr. Berres delivered a presentation of his service and career in the Marine Corps. He also talked about his latest adventure, the Middle Georgia Young Marines and helped explain some of the Young Marines' activities. Mr. Jim Berre's speech highlighted the people of today, tomorrow, and yesterday.

The people of yesterday served our country in the past. Many teachers and staff members were recognized for their years of service. Mr. Jim Berres is also one of those people.

He served in various places throughout the world. Mr. Berres served for 23 years, and he retired as an E-7 Gunnery Sergeant. He dedicated his life to defend our country's freedom. Now, he is working with young people. Other people of yesterday who were present during the program also include teachers who served in branches of the Armed Forces. The people of today are people who are currently serving our country. People are serving in every branch of the military, such as Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard. Each branch of service is equally important. Other people who serve are family members of people in the military, such as wives and children, because they too sacrifice to defend our freedom at the price of time away from their loved ones.

The people of tomorrow are the youth, including the Young Marines and also people who will serve our country in the future. The people of tomorrow are your everyday kids and teenagers.

We respect those who are currently serving and who served. The Young Marines teaches a disciplined, drugfree lifestyle. We learn about all sorts of things from survival tools to learning about drugs like the cannabis plant. This prepares us for life so we don't use or abuse this harmful plant or substances. The Young Marines prepares people of tomorrow or those who want to go into the military by building character through exercising the creed and obligations.

In conclusion, Mr. Jim Berres' speech

touched on the people of today, tomorrow, and yesterday with a focus on the people of tomorrow. The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

As a Young Marine, it is both an honor and a privilege to serve my country and it is my duty until I am relieved. The Young Marines are something to be proud of. I am proud to serve my community and my organization. One day, I hope to fill half of Mr. Berres' shoes. So the next time you hear or see a person from the military or who served your community such as a police officer, think of the people of today, tomorrow, and yesterday. Furthermore, do not forget to stop and thank them for their service. Freedom comes at a price!



THANKS TO YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, we're building stronger leaders and stronger communities

In 2019, the National Foundation was honored to receive continued leadership support from GEICO Military, Ayni Brigade, and Vanguard Industries. Ayni Brigade and Vanguard Industries have been generous supporters of the Young Marines over the years, and their unrestricted support and partnership strengthened the Young Marines units across the nation. "The Young Marines National Foundation is honored to recognize support from our leading sponsors. Thanks to their continued partnership, we will ensure the mission of the Young Marines lives on in perpetuity."—Michael Kessler, Board Chairman, Young Marines National Foundation.

Like Young Marines, GEICO Military cares deeply about building strong communities by supporting our heroes. In fact, GEICO Military helped the Young Marines National Foundation promote the importance of honoring military heroes across the nation through community engagement and volunteerism by its support of the inaugural Rose Campaign.

Thanks to support from GEICO Military and additional corporate sponsors, the Young Marines connected communities of young volunteers who honored their local heroes and the sacrifices they and their families made for our country. In the first year, 14 Young Marines units participated in the national remembrance effort by placing 10,250 roses across eight states, at no cost to the units. Efforts like this help Young Marines build character, become engaged citizens, and strengthen communities across the nation.

With GEICO Military's help, the Young Marines National Foundation will be able to grow the Rose Campaign. "The GEICO Military Team is proud to partner with the Young Marines National Foundation once again and see the impact our support can have on veterans and their loved ones across the country."—Kevin Isherwood, Manager, GEICO Military Department

NEW DONOR SPOTLIGHT (WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION)

hank

The Women Marines Association generously contributed \$5,000 and served as a lead sponsor of the inaugural Rose Campaign in 2019. Their gift alone translated into over a thousand roses laid at a thousand hero gravesites and spread goodwill across the country.

"Our first Rose Campaign launched this past Memorial Day and laid the groundwork for an incredible day of remembrance and celebration. The families of the Young Marines have taken on a great tribute, and one that we know will grow over time as we work to unite all of the families and children of our fallen heroes in this annual effort."—Major General James Kessler, Board Member, Young Marines National Foundation and CEO, Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

"The Women Marines Association partnered with the Young Marines National Foundation to support the Rose Campaign 2019 not only to honor those who served but to instill in our youth the importance of remembering those heroes no longer with us. What better way to prepare them in their youth than to have them learn the principles of honor, courage, and commitment. We start now to pass the torch so the stories of those who served, and are now gone, are never forgotten."—Rhonda Amtower, National President, Women Marines Association

The Young Marines National Foundation looks forward to a longstanding partnership with the Women Marines Association.

YOUNG MARINES ANNOUNCES



The Young Marines and the Daniel Morgan Graduate School of National Security (DMGS) are pleased to announce up to \$2.2 million in graduate scholarships for master's programs in National Security, Intelligence, and/or Managing Disruption and Violence for Young Marines alumni.

Any young adult who was in the Young Marines or a veteran volunteer who has a bachelor's degree can apply for one of the 40 full-time scholarships being offered from the DMGS. Scholarships include tuition, books, housing, and a stipend for living expenses.

In May 2018, the Young Marines National Foundation created the inaugural Young Marines' National Security Leadership Award on behalf of the Daniel Morgan Graduate School of National Security. The first recipient was Colette S. Prosser, the Young Marines' National Adult Volunteer of the Year.

"Young adults who have been through the Young Marines program and current veteran volunteers have an amazing opportunity to continue their education at DMGS," said Bill Davis, national executive director and CEO of the Young Marines. "Our program's mission is strengthening the lives of America's youth. DMGS recognizes the tremendous foundation we have laid and sees that the Young Marines alumni are making an impact in the community."

Just three blocks from the White House, DMGS students study near some of the most prominent members of the national security community, including the FBI, CIA, NSA, State Department, and Pentagon.

"Members of the Young Marines are a terrific fit for DMGS because they have the drive and determination to become great leaders, and our mission is to develop them for that leadership in the national security arena," said Eric Eaton, acting president and CEO, DMGS. "We are proud to invest in their future because we consider it a good investment into the security of our country."

As the provider of graduate education and research aimed at addressing the nation's security and intelligence challenges, DMGS is fully committed to the values of integrity, commitment, service, innovation, and professionalism in teaching and in student services.



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

INCOME

EXPENSES

Contributions	\$298,319
Interest & Dividends	\$64,814
TOTAL REVENUES	\$363,133
GAINS ON INVESTMENTS	
Realized Gain on Investments (net of fees)	\$441,949
Unrealized Gain on Investments	\$167,346
TOTAL GAINS ON INVESTMENTS	\$609,295
NET ASSETS	
Increase in Net Assets	\$308,086
Net Assets, Beginning	\$3,425,157

Advertising	\$166,472
Amortization	\$6,607
Accounting & Legal	\$24,134
Executive Director	\$65,000
Professional Fees	\$340,094
Bank Charges	\$1,619
Insurance	\$3,721
Office Supplies	\$699
Printing	\$2,874
Promotion	\$3,151
Website	\$767
Meetings & Travel	\$43,303
Donations – Summer Leadership Program	\$5,900

\$3,733,243 TOTAL EXPENSES

\$664,341

Net Assets, Ending

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & NET ASSI	ETS
CURRENT ASSETS		CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Cash	\$50,753	Accounts Payable	\$38,824
FIXED ASSETS		NET ASSETS	
Net Website Development Costs	\$5,230	Unrestricted	\$3,733,243
OTHER ASSETS		TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$3,772,067
Investments	\$3,716,084	a net assets	

TOTAL ASSETS \$3,772,067

The Young Marines and the Young Marines National Foundation are extremely proud to have earned a Platinum Seal for our exemplary, transparent fiduciary responsibility and the demonstrable results of our mission—the highest level of recognition GuideStar awards nonprofits.



DRAFT BEFORE COMPLETION OF FINANCIAL AUDIT

YOUNG MARINES NATIONAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MIKE ZELIFF	NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Effective July 17, 2014, the Young Marines National Foundation was determined to be tax exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation's Employee Identification Number (EIN) is 46-3937785. Charitable donations to the Young Marines National Foundation are tax deductible.

Inquiries, contributions, and requests for additional information should be addressed to:

THE YOUNG MARINES NATIONAL FOUNDATION PO BOX 530543 ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33747

THIS ORGANIZATION WAS AWARDED A PLATINUM RATING BY GUIDESTAR.



VISIT YOUNGMARINESFOUNDATION.ORG OR EMAIL US AT GIVING@YMFOUNDATION.ORG