



MARINE CORPS COORDINATING COUNCIL  
of GREATER ROCHESTER, INC.

## 2017 Annual Report

**WE ARE VERY PROUD** to highlight the community impact, accomplishments and effectiveness of the Marine Corps Coordinating Council. This demonstrates that the Council is continuously completing its mission of “*Taking care of our own.*” Our ‘own’ being those Marines, Sailors, Reservists and their families in Western and Central New York as well as Erie, Pennsylvania. Last year we were quite successful in our mission and we wanted to share with the community how we succeeded.

1. ***Marine Corps Birthday Balls.*** The uninitiated might ask “It’s a party isn’t it?” Yes, but it’s also an observance. Much of the formal ceremony at the balls celebrate the continuity of the Corps from ***generation to generation.*** It’s partly an annual ceremony of re-dedication.

The Council supports Birthday Balls in several ways. For the youngest Marines we provide financial support to the Reserve Units. This allows young Marines to attend with reduced price tickets. The Council also supports the ***Birthday Luncheon*** mounted by the Marine Corps League. This day-time observance is often preferred by older Marines. Production and printing of formal dinner programs is also provided by the Council to all Birthday Celebrations.

2. The annual ***Toys for Tots*** program, done in concert with the Marine Corps League, Cooper Marines, the Salvation Army and the Holley Hellhounds collected over 41,000 toys that were given to over 20,000 children in six contiguous counties. Normally an activity of local Marine Reservists, the Council has taken responsibility for this tradition ever since Rochester lost its reserve unit three years ago. “Every child deserves a little Christmas.”

3. A once-homeless Marine reservist is back on his feet with a full time job, his own apartment and a ***donated van*** with which to commute to work. All through an intense nine month intervention of the Council.

4. Seventeen \$500 college ***scholarships*** totaling \$8500 were awarded to deserving Marine and Naval reservists last year. These scholarships have recently been named in honor of Council members who have passed on.

5. Our single most important fund raising event, the ***Len Benedict Memorial Leatherneck Open*** golf tournament raises money to fund all of our programs. The 2017 Open was the most successful to date.

6. At the University of Rochester we annually present the outstanding graduating Marine ROTC midshipman with a Marine officer’s dress sword.

7. Our ***Marines Helping Marines*** program helped a Marine veteran struggling with health issues allowing him to afford his much needed medications.

8. The Marine Reserve Centers we serve in Buffalo, Syracuse as well as Erie, PA all have annual ***Family Days.*** At these events Marines and their families have a picnic and fun day. The Council helps out with the food and a Bounce House for the kids. In addition we often provide door prizes in the form of Wegmans Gift Cards.

9. The Council also supplements the ***Naval Relief Fund*** for those reservists who have a family emergency that needs immediate assistance. The Council can address such emergencies much faster than usual channels. Often under 24 hours of notification.

10. The Council also supports other local organizations that we recognize as deserving, useful and whose objectives are parallel to our own. These include the ***Veterans Outreach Center, Honor Flight, Gold and Blue Star Mothers.*** Each year the ***Athletes in Action*** program at SUNY Brockport is supported with a donation. The ***Military History Society of Rochester*** has been a friend of the Council. We help them in many ways to further the display of Marine Corps history and traditions.

To sum up, we have no paid staff being 100% volunteer. Ninety-seven percent of our funds go directly to our programs. It always has. It always will.

The Council wants to thank all contributors for their continued support and donations. We welcome you in a future volunteer capacity at one of our events or to one of our monthly meetings. Visit our social media sites for full particulars, calendars and photos of our year:

**[www.MCCCRochester.org](http://www.MCCCRochester.org)**  
and on **[FaceBook](#)**.

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